

1,000 occupy public housing project

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — More than 1,000 people took over an abandoned public housing project with the support of Rev. Leonardo Boff, Brazil's leading liberation theologian, a newspaper reported Saturday. About 300 homeless families occupied the housing project in Itaipava, 70 kilometres north of Rio de Janeiro, on Friday, according to Rio's O Globo newspaper. No one was reported injured. Itaipava police could not immediately confirm the occupation, said officer Denilson. Rev. Boff, the nation's foremost proponent of liberation theology — a movement linking spiritual liberation with freedom from social and economic oppression — spent Friday at the housing project mediating possession disputes between families, according to O Globo. In Brazil, Roman Catholic priests, including Rev. Boff, have frequently supported homeless rural peasants in clashes with ranchers over land ownership, a position not sanctioned or supported by the Vatican. In 1985, the Vatican sentenced Rev. Boff to a year of "obedient silence" for criticising the church. The Vatican suspended the sentence after 10 months.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة تُنشر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

8 killed in Gaza collision

GAZA CITY, occupied Gaza Strip (AP) — A private bus smashed into a U.N. vehicle Saturday, killing eight people and injuring 11, three of them seriously, police said. The accident occurred about 20 kilometres south of Gaza City. A police spokesman said the bus was travelling behind the U.N. vehicle when the U.N. vehicle slowed down and the bus slammed into it. A U.N. official said eight people in the U.N. vehicle were killed and nine were injured. He said those killed and injured were employees of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). He said they were working in Gaza and were on their way home to Khan Yunis, a city about 25 kilometres south of Gaza, when the accident occurred. The official did not immediately know how many passengers were in the U.N. vehicle. Police said they did not know how many people were in the bus.

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Challenger delegation arrives in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the U.S. Challenger space centre arrived here Saturday on a six-day visit to Jordan. During the visit the delegation will hold talks with officials at the Ministry of Higher Education and Jordanian universities and will also visit a number of historical and archaeological sites in the country. The delegation comprises the centre's director and five members of the families of the crew of the Challenger space shuttle which crashed last year.

Talks pave way for Venice summit

PORTO CERVO, Sardinia (R) — A three-day meeting to prepare for the Venice summit of the Group of Seven industrialised nations ended Saturday at this exclusive Sardinian resort. The Venice summit of leaders of the United States, Canada, Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and Japan, is due to take place from June 8-10.

Congressmen seek Stinger probe

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Two members of Congress are calling for an audit of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) methods in controlling delivery of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Angola and Afghanistan after a news report that some of the missiles were discovered in Zambia. Senator Dennis DeConcini and Representative William Gray want the General Accounting Office (GAO) to conduct an audit of CIA activities.

Salvador rebels stage major attack

SAN SALVADOR (AP) — Leftist guerrillas attacked the main army base in the northeastern rebel stronghold of Morazan province early Saturday, killing 10 soldiers and a civilian woman, the base commander said. Fourteen soldiers were wounded in the attack on the 4th military detachment in San Francisco Gotera, about 160 kilometres east of San Salvador.

China assumes presidency of Security Council

UNITED NATIONS (R) — China's U.N. representative, Li Lue, took over on Friday as president of the Security Council, succeeding Boris Tsvetkov of Bulgaria. The post rotates monthly according to the English alphabetical order of the 15 member delegations.

U.S. awaiting report on Moscow embassy

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. State Department, faced with congressional moves to force demolition of the new "bugged" U.S. embassy in Moscow, said Friday it was waiting for completion of a high-level study before taking a decision on the building's future. James Schlesinger, former defence secretary and former Central Intelligence Agency director, was named in February by Secretary of State George Shultz to make a comprehensive review of the embassy complex's chancery — or office building — which Mr. Shultz has said is full of Soviet listening devices.

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Jordan dismisses Israeli claim of agreement on talks

Combined agency dispatches

AMMAN — Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib said on Saturday that reports of an Arab-U.S.-Israeli agreement on peace talks were "non-sense" and that Jordan would be the party to announce such an agreement if there was one.

"I'm talking about all this Israeli way of talking," Mr. Khatib was quoted as saying in a telephone interview with AP. "We decided this, we reached that... all this is nonsense," Mr. Khatib told the news agency. An Israeli government official claimed on Friday an agreement had been reached on a "document on understanding" that called for convening an international conference that would lead to direct talks between Jordan and Israel on a Middle East settlement. In his interview with AP, Mr. Khatib denied there was any such agreement. "If we have something, we are the side that will announce it," he was quoted as saying. On Friday, the unidentified Israeli official, reportedly close to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, told foreign reporters that Israel, Jordan, the United States

and Egypt had removed points of contention and agreed on a set of principles for a peace conference. The official said the purported accord included a key principle governing the question of Palestinian representation, stipulating that all delegates would have to renounce "terror and violence," a phrase seen by the Israelis as excluding the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). AP quoted another well-placed Jordanian official also as saying on Saturday the Israeli report was not accurate and that Jordan had not changed its position. "All I can assure you is that we have not changed our position as to Palestinian representation, or as to the international conference," the official was quoted as saying by AP. The official, who was not identified, noted that Jordan had been discussing the guidelines for a peace conference with U.S. diplomats and said:

"The change... in position has been both in the American position and the Israeli position" rather than Jordan's stand. Jordan has said that the PLO should participate in the called-for international conference under United Nations auspices with the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The U.S. and Israel refuse to deal with the PLO. Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Doudin, in an interview with Reuters on Friday, also dismissed the Israeli claim. "As a member of the government, I have no idea what they are talking about. There is nothing of the sort. Peres has released yet another balloon, it seems," Mr. Doudin was quoted as saying by Reuters. The disputed Israeli claim has also widened the rift within the Israeli government. Reuters reported. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on Friday reaffirmed his total opposition to the proposal for an international conference and members in his Likud bloc accused Mr. Peres, leader of the Labour Party, of misleading the Jewish state and foreign leaders over the issue.

(Continued on page 2)

Palestinians mourn victims of Israeli raid on South Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — Singing songs and firing guns into the air, Palestinians in refugee camps east of Sidon on Saturday mourned 18 people, including two children, killed in an Israeli raid. Palestinian sources quoted by Reuters said 16 more people were injured in Friday's attack by four US-made F-16 warplanes using at least 40 rockets and bombs weighing up to 750 kilograms. More bodies might still be found in the rubble of demolished buildings, the sources said. A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) statement said earlier that seven of the dead were civilians. Witnesses quoted by Reuters said about 3,000 people marched in the funeral of eight of the dead, who were buried to the sounds of Palestinian songs and volleys of automatic rifle fire.

The raid was Israel's 13th on Lebanon this year and the 10th on Palestinian targets east of Sidon, where more than 80,000 refugees live. The Palestinian sources said the dead included 16 Palestinian fighters — seven from the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), five from Fateh and four from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). In Tel Aviv, an Israeli military spokesman said the raid was to counter stepped up guerrilla activity in South Lebanon. Fateh official Abed Mouti said he expected more Israeli raids, adding the PLO would respond with more operations like that of April 19, when three Fateh fighters crossed into Israel and killed two Israeli soldiers before being killed themselves.

"We will retaliate... the coming stage will see daring operations," said Mr. Abed Mouti, also known as Abu Yasser. Reporters in Sidon said Palestinians had abandoned most of their bases in and around the refugee camps of Mich Mieh and Ain Al Hilweh and spread out in the fields to avoid casualties in any further Israeli strike. Most of Friday's casualties fell in the main square of Mich Mieh which was hit by 18 rockets, the reporters said in telephone dispatches from the scene. Six buildings were destroyed in the 55-minute air attack. At the United Nations, Lebanon said Friday it had indications Israel was likely, at any time, to launch a major military attack north of the so-called "security zone" that it maintains inside Lebanese territory.

Black violence and protests forerun white polls in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — An upsurge of violence and protest has overshadowed the campaigning for Wednesday's whites-only election, a target of the most intense black opposition activity in months. Strikes by black workers have provoked mass firings and at least 11 deaths in two weeks, police have whipped or tear-gassed protesters at three universities and anti-apartheid groups plan a nationwide school and work boycott on election day. The turmoil has not altered the general assumption that President P.W. Botha's National Party will retain its large majority in parliament's dominant white chamber. But opposition pleas for change have a new urgency and the nationalists are emphasising security issues. The National party defended the April 25 army raid against alleged African National Congress (ANC) targets in Zambia, despite complaints it was an election stunt. Its advertisements imply that the Progressive Federal Party, the main liberal opposition, would hand over power to the banned ANC. But Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the black Nobel peace laureate, said in a message to white voters: "Whatever you do, know clearly that there is no way the whites can win away the ANC, that negotiations will one day have to be entered into with

them." "There is no way," said Archbishop Tutu, "that a small minority can go on ruling this country on its own forever." The stayaway planned for Tuesday and Wednesday is the first attempt at a black national strike since June 16, the anniversary of 1976 riots in Soweto. The current state of emergency, which has severely curtailed black protest, was declared June 12 in part to control the stayaway. A major force behind the election protest is the 600,000-member Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), which says the election "deepens racism, fear and ignorance among the white electorate." Close to 30,000 black rail and postal workers affiliated with COSATU are on strike. The seven-week rail strike, the longest and largest ever in South Africa's public sector, led to the dismissal of more than 17,000 strikers. In another development, the United States said Friday it was deeply concerned over South Africa's detention of an American television network's camera crew as riot police moved against protesting students. "We are deeply concerned about it both here and in South Africa," State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters.

Nakasone ends visit to U.S.

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone left Saturday carrying President Ronald Reagan's pledge to oppose protectionist trade legislation and lift sanctions on Japanese goods "as soon as possible." Mr. Nakasone, in return, has tried to assure the United States that his government is striving to reduce a foreign trade supremacy of \$101.4 billion worldwide last year. More than half the total, \$58.6 billion, was in trade surpluses with the United States. Mr. Nakasone and Mr. Reagan ended two days of talks Friday by issuing a joint statement that affirmed their desire to narrow the trade gap between the two nations (See page 7). On Saturday, Secretary of State George Shultz told Mr. Nakasone that his visit to Washington had been very useful despite trade tensions with the United States, a Japanese press spokesman said. Mr. Shultz made the comment at a breakfast meeting with Mr. Nakasone before the Japanese leader left for home. A Japanese spokesman said the talks with Mr. Shultz focused on the outcome of Mr. Nakasone's meetings with Mr. Reagan and other top administration officials. The House of Representatives, in an action timed to coincide with the visit, passed a tough trade bill on Thursday that could force retaliation against Japan.

Jordan marks anniversary of King's assumption of constitutional powers

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan on Saturday marked the 34th anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers. Since assuming his duties in 1953, King Hussein has been devoting his time and effort to serving his country and the Arab Nation and his relentless endeavours have been rewarded with development and progress in Jordan. Under King Hussein, Jordan has won world-wide respect and enjoys stability and security, which contribute to the Kingdom's progress and development. The King's moderate and wise leadership enhanced Jordan's credibility world-wide and helped bolster Jordan's relations with world nations. On the domestic front, King Hussein has succeeded in providing Jordan with the means to ensure strength and development in the fields of economy, science and social affairs. In true commitment to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt, King Hussein has worked hard to strengthen the Jordanian



Armed Forces to enable them to defend the nation and has been striving to establish Arab solidarity by trying to remove inter-Arab differences and unifying Arab ranks in the face of common dangers. Jordan's endeavours to help Iraq repel aggression and to enable the Palestinians to regain their rights in their homeland are exemplary. Jordan, under King Hussein, has adopted a brave and firm stand in the face of Israeli con-

spiracies designed to Judaize the occupied Arab territory and evict Arab inhabitants from their homeland. Under King Hussein Jordan has been striving with all its might to help the Palestinian people liberate their land and regain their rights and territory. On the occasion of the anniversary on Saturday the King received cables of congratulations in which the senders expressed pride in his leadership. The cables said that under the leadership of King Hussein, Jordan made great strides on the road to achieve its national aspirations and substantiate its international credibility. The cables were sent by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House Speaker Akel Al Fayed, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, the directors of the Public Security, General Intelligence and Civil Defence departments, senior civil and military officials as well as heads of official and popular organisations in the country.



MOMENT OF SATISFACTION: Dr. Zaid Keilani, head of the medical team which supervised the fertilisation and delivery of Jordan's first test-tube babies at the Khalidi Hospital, cradles two of the three surviving babies (See story on page 3)

Israel refuses independent check on heavy water

OSLO (R) — Norway said Saturday that Israel had refused to allow an independent inspection aimed at establishing whether Norwegian heavy water sold to the Jewish state might have been used to make nuclear weapons. Foreign Ministry spokesman Joerg Willy Brønnebak said Norway was also investigating allegations of French involvement in the affair. Brønnebak told Reuters that Israel had given "informal indications" that it would not allow the International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA) to inspect 20 tonnes of heavy water, sold secretly to Israel in 1960 for purely peaceful purposes. Last month Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland called on Israel to permit checks, after researchers and parliamentarians said the water might have been used to make plutonium for nuclear weapons. The government would now assess whether Norway had the technology to carry out an investigation itself, Brønnebak said. Government sources have said that if Norway is not allowed to make an inspection — a condition of the original sale — it would be considered a breach of contract and Norway might attempt to recall the water. "We are also checking allegations that France sold Norwegian heavy water to Israel in the 1950s and 1960s," Brønnebak said. "If this is true, the French sale would have breached a clause in the contracts barring re-export." He said the allegations, made by French author Pierre Pean in a

1982 book called "Deux Bombers" (Two Bombs), had only recently been noticed in Norway in the wake of concern over the heavy water sales to Israel. Israel has refused to confirm or deny that they form part of its military arsenal. Brønnebak said he did not know the exact quantities of heavy water sold to France in the 1950s and 1960s, but government sources put the figure at around 100 tonnes. "The Israelis have refused independent inspection of our heavy water because they feel that the IAEA is politically biased against them," Brønnebak said. Norway sent a diplomatic mission to Israel last month to ask for an inspection, but the Israelis said

it would be technically difficult since the Norwegian water had been mixed with deliveries from other countries. Since Norway made the original sale to Israel and shipped a further tonne in 1970, the IAEA has developed technology which can find traces of different deliveries of heavy water, diplomatic sources said. Speculation about Israel's use of the water surfaced last October after Mordechai Vanunu, a former technician at its Dimona nuclear reactor, was quoted as saying that the country had been producing nuclear weapons for 20 years. Mr. Vanunu is now being held in a top-security Israeli jail, awaiting trial on "treason" charges.

Washington says NATO is not resisting quick arms accord

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States on Friday rejected suggestions that key Western allies were resisting a quick decision on a medium-range nuclear weapons agreement for Europe. "Those are your conclusions, not mine. I don't share them," State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters when asked about indications that some NATO allies were objecting to speedy consideration of the arms proposal. He said the recent series of alliance meetings on the subject was "a good example of the consultative process that really is at the core of NATO, and I think everyone is proceeding on a very open and constructive basis." Secretary of State George Shultz, returning from talks in Moscow with Soviet leaders on April 16, said after briefing NATO foreign ministers in Brussels that the alliance "will make a decision promptly about our next steps."

But over the past two weeks of intensive consultations, key allies have made clear they will not be stampeded into an accord, which offers the prospect of eliminating all intermediate-range forces (INF) in Europe, including long-range Soviet SS-20 missiles and U.S. Pershing 2 and cruise missiles, with a range of 1,000 to 5,000 kilometres. Moscow, however, has also proposed eliminating shorter-range INF missiles with a range of 500 to 1,000 kilometres, and this has caused severe jitters among Europeans worried that the loss of INF will leave them "decoupled" from U.S. defences and more vulnerable than ever to what they see as superior Soviet conventional arms. NATO diplomats in Brussels said Thursday that West German indecision about how to react to the Soviet offer on shorter-range missiles had forced cancellation of a high-level NATO meeting scheduled for Monday.

U.S. Senate panel rejects compliance with SALT-II

WASHINGTON (R) — A key congressional committee has voted down a measure that could have compelled President Ronald Reagan to return to the limits of the 1979 Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT-II). The vote on Friday was a victory for Mr. Reagan, who opposes the measure, but in a tug-of-war over arms-control policy, Democratic senators vowed to take the issue to the full Senate, where there is strong support for SALT-II compliance. The Senate Appropriations committee, which approved a bill providing \$9.3 billion in supplemental 1987 spending for domestic programmes, defence and foreign aid, voted 12-13 to reject the SALT-II amendment offered by Arkansas Democratic Senator Dale Bumpers. The committee acted after one-and-a-half hours of often acrimonious debate and last-minute vote-switching that left the outcome in doubt until the vote was

actually taken. Mr. Bumpers said he would take the issue to the Senate when the supplemental bill is being considered possibly next week. The House of Representatives is already on record as supporting the amendment. It approved the measure last week along with a provision calling for a one-year ban on nuclear tests above one kiloton, which Mr. Reagan also opposes. Mr. Reagan, whose administration appears close to concluding its first arms control agreement with Moscow, has said he will veto any bill containing the SALT-II and test ban provisions. But Democratic leaders in Congress, determined to pass arms control legislation Mr. Reagan opposes, have said if they are unsuccessful with the supplemental bill, they will try to attach the arms control provisions to legislation difficult for Mr. Reagan to veto, such as the Defence Department bill.

White House denies new evidence suggesting Reagan knew of contra aid

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The White House has disputed new evidence suggesting that President Reagan knew more about possibly illegal aid to Nicaraguan contra rebels than he has admitted.

"The president was never advised of this matter," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters in reference to a report by an FBI agent who interviewed fired National Security Council (NSC) aide Oliver North in July 1983.

The report quoted Col. North as saying that in June 1983 he discussed with Mr. Reagan and former NSC chief Robert McFarlane a possible contribution to the contras by an Iranian posing as a Saudi Arabian prince.

But Mr. Fitzwater said: "The president's recollection is that there was never any such meeting."

Mr. Reagan's role in contra fund-raising efforts will be major focus of congressional hearings on the Iran contra scandal which opened on Tuesday. Between October 1984 and October 1986, direct or indirect U.S. government aid to the rebels was banned by law.

Mr. Reagan has repeatedly insisted his only involvement was to greet and thank individuals for money used for pro-contra television commercials, not for military funding.

Mr. Reagan told a news conference on March 19: "When I met with them, I met with them to thank them because they had raised money to put spot ads on television in favour of the contras in an effort to try to influence Congress to continue giving aid."

The FBI report surfaced a day after conservative fund-raiser Carl "Spitz" Channell, pleading guilty to a conspiracy charge stemming from his efforts to arm the contras, named Col. North as a co-conspirator.

Although Mr. Reagan met some of Mr. Channell's contribu-

tors, he told reporters Thursday night, he knew little about him. "I'm kind of a stranger to this whole thing," Mr. Reagan told questioners during a state dinner for Japan's Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

In a related development, the Washington Post reported Friday that in 1983, Mr. Channell paid David Fischer, Reagan's former personal assistant, a \$20,000 monthly retainer, primarily to arrange private meetings between Mr. Reagan and his major contributors.

Mr. Fitzwater confirmed that Mr. Fischer had arranged several meetings on behalf of the National Endowment for the Preservation of Liberty, a Channell fund-raising organization.

"In every case, the documentation shows the (meetings took place) because of the money that they were raising for advertising and education purposes," the spokesman said.

On Sunday, Mr. Reagan is scheduled to deliver his first major speech on contra aid since the Iran scandal broke.

Mr. Fitzwater said the president will address the 100th annual convention of the American Newspaper Publishers Association at Ellis Island, New York, on the need for continued U.S. support for the Nicaraguan rebels.

Mr. Channell pleaded to a single count and agreed to cooperate in independent counsel Lawrence E. Walsh's investigation.

Mr. Walsh's formal charge, known as a criminal information, said Mr. Channell was involved with a U.S. government official, but the charge did not identify that official.

However, when Mr. Channell

was asked in court by U.S. district Judge Stanley S. Harris to name the persons with whom he conspired, he replied simply, "Col. North, an official of the National Security Council."

When Walsh asked Michael Brown, who was asked later if a similar charge could be expected soon against Col. North, he said, "we're not prepared to do that at this time."

Under the agreement Mr. Channell entered into with Mr. Walsh, the fund-raiser and several of his employees said they would cooperate with Mr. Walsh's investigation into possible criminal activity in the secret sale of weapons to Iran and in the funding of the contras.

The developments came less than a week before congressional panels are to open public hearings on the Iran-contra affair and just one day after Mr. Walsh suggested prosecutions would be endangered if Congress granted immunity from prosecution to any more principal figures in the investigation.

On Capitol Hill leaders of the congressional panels said retired Air Force Major Gen. Richard Secord, a pivotal figure with key financial information on the affair, will be the first public witness in the hearings that begin on Tuesday. Gen. Secord, who declined to testify before the Senate Intelligence Committee earlier, will appear without an immunity grant.

Former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane will follow Gen. Secord, the panels' leaders said.

Mr. Channell's guilty plea came as Mr. McFarlane was testifying before the grand jury empaneled by Mr. Walsh. Mr. McFarlane, who travelled to Iran in 1986 in an attempt to close an arms-for-hostages deal, declined to comment as he left the grand jury room.

The information described a series of meetings at which Mr. Channell and the unidentified government official — identified in court by Mr. Channell as Col. North — received donations to the National Endowment for the Preservation of Liberty, of which Mr. Channell was president.

Mr. Channell was testifying before the grand jury empaneled by Mr. Walsh. Mr. McFarlane, who travelled to Iran in 1986 in an attempt to close an arms-for-hostages deal, declined to comment as he left the grand jury room.

Maksoud: Israeli air raids killed 13

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Arab League's U.N. observer has said at least 13 people were killed and 35 wounded in Israeli air strikes Friday against Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon.

Ambassador Clovis Maksoud said: "Today's massive Israeli air strikes against heavily populated Palestinian refugee camps near the cities of Tyre and Sidon left at least 13 people dead and 35 others injured, the highest toll in any one Israeli raid so far this year."

He said the U.N. Security Council should "remember its duty towards the Palestinian refugees and its responsibility for the preservation of the peace and security of the Middle East by taking action, even once, to curb Israeli depredations."

Mr. Maksoud said the world community, and especially the United States, "which by its silence appears to condone Israeli abuses," must be aware of the serious threat the attacks posed to the peace and security of the entire region.

Israel said Friday that the raid against targets near the Palestinian refugee camp of Miyeah Miyeah, the 13th Israeli air raid on Lebanon this year, was part of a stepped-up war against Palestinian commandos.

Freed Briton denies spying in Libya

LONDON (AP) — A Scottish engineer freed after five years in jail in Libya returned to Britain Wednesday night and denied the Libyan charges of industrial sabotage.

A Libyan court sentenced Robert Maxwell, 38, to a 12-year jail term in 1982. He was freed last week, flew to Malta Tuesday, and arrived at Gatwick, London's second airport, on Wednesday.

The official Libyan News Agency JANA said Maxwell was freed following the intervention of Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi after an appeal by Scottish legislator Ron Brown and colleagues.

Mr. Brown is a member of Britain's socialist opposition Labour Party. He made the appeal while in Libya to attend a peace conference called to denounce last year's American bombing attack against Libya on the first anniversary of the raids on April 15.

Maxwell told reporters at Gatwick: "I was never a spy. I was guilty of doing two jobs. They said I was doing someone out of a job." He said he believed he had been the victim of political disagreements between Libya and Britain.

Britain broke diplomatic ties with Libya following the 11-day siege at the Libyan embassy in London in April 1984 and they have not been restored.

Group kidnaps Iranian in Beirut hoping to swap with Terry Wait

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Lebanese weekly that broke the news of U.S. arms sales to Iran last November has said that an Iranian kidnapped in Beirut was seized by a group hoping to swap for Terry Wait, the missing representative of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Ash Shiraz said in its latest issue that Mohammad Khatami, describes an Iranian embassy employee and the brother of a Muslim clericman supervising a holy Shiite shrine outside Damascus, was being held in a secret flat

outside Beirut by an unnamed faction offering to exchange him for Mr. Wait.

In what appeared to be a veiled threat pressing for the release of the missing Iranian, Ash Shiraz claimed that "more than one state and intelligence service are now involved and have started looking for (him) with the aim of settling the issue within the limits of an exchange of kidnapped persons so it will not reach a point the captors will not be able to retreat from."

If the report is correct, it kidnapping would be the first of foreigner in west Beirut since 7,000 Syrian troops were deployed there two months ago and militia rule.

The Iranian embassy did not comment on the report.

The article reporting the kidnapping was issued to journalists ahead of publication, which was scheduled for May 1. It said kidnappers were members of Lebanese political party with headquarters outside Beirut.

Klibi says Ghana can help end Gulf war

ABIDJAN (R) — Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi has voiced optimism that Ghana, a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, could help find a peaceful solution to the Iran-Iraq war, Accra Radio reported.

The radio, monitored in Abidjan, quoted Mr. Klibi as telling reporters before flying to Congo that he was satisfied at Ghana's response to the league's current diplomatic initiative to end the six-year-old conflict.

Mr. Klibi hoped Ghana would "play a positive role in the quest for a lasting solution to the war," the radio said.

Mr. Klibi and four other Arab League delegates flew into the West African nation for talks with Ghanaian leader Jerry Rawlings.

Kanaks hail Libyan support for New Caledonian struggle

LONDON (R) — Radical Kanaks in the Pacific territory of New Caledonia have hailed Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi for inspiring confidence in their plans to end French rule by force of arms, the Libyan News Agency JANA has said.

It quoted a leading member of the Kanak separatist movement, Yann Celene Uregei, as saying that "France entered with the gun and we must get it out with the gun."

JANA, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, described Mr. Uregei as the Kanak foreign minister and said he told the Libyan newspaper Al Jamahiriya that Col. Qadhafi had given "impetus and encouragement to collective revolution."

The report followed an unannounced meeting at a New Zealand air base early Friday between Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden and New Zealand Prime Minister, David Lange at which they discussed

Libyan intrusion in the Pacific.

JANA quoted Mr. Uregei as saying that Col. Qadhafi has aroused Kanak confidence by speech to "the conference of the revolutionary and progressive forces in the Pacific." It did not say where or when the meeting was held.

The Libyan leader had "made clear the dangers of American and European plots, especially of France, and the puppet roles played by Australia and New Zealand in the Pacific," Mr. Uregei said.

He added: "Confronting French colonialism with armed struggle becomes unavoidable, just like the struggle waged by the people of Vietnam, Algeria and Vanuatu, and the Kanak people cannot be an exception to that."

"From the land of the free great Jamahiriya (Libya) we declare our determination to liberate our Kanak land whatever the price may be."

Jordan rejects Israeli claim

(Continued from page 1)

The senior Israeli official said Friday U.S. President Ronald Reagan and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz had given their blessing to the "document of understanding" which Mr. Peres would present to Israel's 10-man inner cabinet for approval, possibly next Wednesday.

Before then Mr. Peres and Mr. Shamir were due to meet Saturday with little apparent prospect of reconciling their differences.

Peres' aides often radiate an optimism hard to reconcile with the facts. Israeli Television said U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering told Mr. Shamir on Friday Washington backed a non-coercive international conference that would meet briefly to open the way for direct talks between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

In Washington, U.S. officials said diplomacy involved in organising a peace conference had reached a delicate stage and were making progress.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said although significant progress was being made, it was still far from clear

that a conference would result. "We don't know where it's going to go. We'll just have to wait and see," a senior administration official told Reuters in Washington.

"Our position on the peace process has been clear," Redman told reporters on Thursday. "Our objective is a comprehensive peace, and to that end, we have been working with the parties in the region for many months."

He said the United States was "convinced that peace can only be achieved through bilateral, direct negotiations," adding that "we have been exploring with the parties in the region whether an international conference might contribute to that end."

U.S. officials said they believed the deep gulf between Mr. Peres and Mr. Shamir, uneasy partners in a coalition government, was responsible for Friday's remarks by the Peres' aide.

"Obviously that's for internal Israeli political reasons," said one U.S. official.

American diplomats in Tel Aviv, reluctant to become embroiled in domestic Israeli politics, declined comment on the reports.

Gulf states may introduce death penalty for drugs

By Nabila Megallil
Associated Press

MANAMA, Bahrain — Saudi Arabia's clerics have decreed that drug traffickers will be beheaded, as part of an anti-narcotics campaign that is expected to spread among the Gulf states.

Convicted drug dealers will be flogged publicly on their first offense and have their heads chopped off for the second, according to a decree announced recently by the interior minister, Prince Nayef.

The neighbouring Gulf state of Qatar quickly emulated the move and swore to eradicate narcotics. Gulf police sources said they believe the death penalty will be prescribed in other member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in a bid to stem a drug tide swelled by the region's oil wealth.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain,

Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in an economic and defence alliance.

The Saudi decree carries religious weight for other Muslim states because it is the birthplace of Islam. Its laws are based on the Sharia, a code derived from the Koran.

The penalty for convicted smugglers was passed in March by Saudi Arabia's Ulema, a group of scholars empowered to interpret the Koran and develop laws.

Sharia Law has two primary sources, the Koran and the Sunna, or day-to-day practices of Prophet Mohammed in his lifetime. Unlike prohibitions against liquor, there are no clear-cut drug rulings in the Koran or Sunna.

But the Ulema categorised smugglers under the Koranic verse that condemns people who "corrupt the earth and should be killed, crucified, or have their

hands and legs cut off."

Iran's Islamic rulers, led by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, has used this verse to justify the death penalty for hundreds of drug smugglers since it came to power in 1979. Elsewhere in the Islamic World, Malaysia, which has a Muslim majority, also executes drug smugglers.

In recent years, the other Gulf countries have stiffened the maximum penalty for drug smugglers to life imprisonment.

The Gulf region lies between Asia, where many drugs are cultivated, and the markets in Europe and North America. The location has made the Gulf states, and particularly the freewheeling emirate of Dubai, a hub of narcotics transshipment.

The oil boom brought large expatriate communities and with them more drug smuggling and addiction.

Lt. Col. Abdul Aziz, deputy chief of Dubai's Criminal Inves-

tigation Department and head of its Narcotics Control Bureau, said in January that drug smuggling was increasing.

He said 545 kilograms of narcotics — mainly hashish, opium and heroin — were seized in Dubai in 1983.

Between 1983 and 1985, police arrested 1,100 people in narcotics-related cases in the United Arab Emirates, including Dubai.

The arrested included 696 Asians, 242 Gulf Arabs, 109 expatriate Arabs and 53 Africans, Europeans and Americans.

Prince Nayef, King Fahd's brother, said in an interview with Al Hawadith magazine that drug addiction is a limited problem in Saudi Arabia.

Explaining the death penalty to Riyadh's police, he said the Ulema and King Fahd "do not decree the penalty for the sake of killing, but (as) a deterrent and a reminder to those bent on harming the nation."

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 7711-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
14:00	Koran
14:20	Programme Review
14:45	Cartoons
14:55	Ramadan Concert
14:55	Local Puzzles
16:00	Cooking Programme
16:35	Arabic Play
17:15	Historical Series (Ibn Khaldoun)
18:00	Religious Programme
18:10	Arabic Series
19:00	Religious Programme
19:30	Ramadan Competition
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic Series
21:30	News in Arabic
22:15	Tomorrow's programme
22:20	Local Series
22:30	World News
22:50	Arabic Film
01:45	Religious Programme
PROGRAMME TWO	
17:30	Si Versailles in detail conte
19:00	News in French
19:15	La force du destin
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:40	Varieties
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Growing Pains
21:10	On the Road (Documentary)
21:30	Religious Programme
22:20	Robbery Under Arms
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 850 KHz. SW Tel: 7711-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsweek
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
08:45	Pop Session
09:00	News Summary
09:15	In Concert
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Pop Talk
10:45	News Summary
11:00	Pop Session
11:30	News Summary
12:00	News Summary
12:30	News Summary
13:00	News Summary
13:30	Pop Session
14:00	News Bulletin
14:30	Instrumentals
14:45	Science Report
15:00	Concert Hour
15:30	News Summary
16:00	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favorites
17:00	Listeners' Choice
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Jazz Hour
19:00	Newsweek
19:30	Dile with a Star
20:00	Evening Show

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
* An art exhibition by Ahmad Na'wak at the French Cultural Centre (until May 6)	
* An art exhibition by Samir Obaidat and Isam Al Sabah at the Housing Bank Gallery.	
* An exhibition of oil paintings by Mikhail Agapov at Yarmouk University in Irbid (until May 6).	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267	
American Centre - 644371	
British Council - 641520	
French Cultural Centre - 6361478	
German Institute - 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre - 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre - 624049	
Turkish Cultural Centre - 639777	
Haya Arts Centre - 665195	
Husseini Youth City - 6618186	
Y.W.C.A. - 641793	
Y.W.M.C.A. - 664251	
Amman Municipal Library - 671111	
Univ. of Jordan Library - 843555	
MUSEUMS	
"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium in the afternoon. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.	
Famous Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631700.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Clashed 160). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by	
19th Century orientalist artists. Mustafa Jabal Lweideh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630126.	
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	
SERVICE CLUBS	
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.	
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel. 7:30 p.m.	
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.	
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel. 2:00 p.m.	
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624590.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lweideh. Tel. 637440.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. Tel. 641757.	
Terrasanta Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Lweideh. Mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622565.	
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali. Tel. 623541.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.	
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.	
Amman International Church (Interdenominational). meet at Southern Baptist School in Sunnistan. Tel. 677534.	
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7:00 p.m. Rabahow Congregation, English Service: Sunday 8:30 p.m. Rev. N. Samir. Tel. 811255.	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08) 532005, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) flights (Terminal 1)

18:00	Aqaba (RJ)
18:00	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
18:25	Jeddah (RJ)
11:00	Kuwait (LN)
11:05	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
17:30	Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
18:30	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:30	Athens (OA)
19:05	Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:05	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
19:35	London, Geneva (RJ)
20:00	Paris, Geneva (RJ)
21:00	Madrid, Rome (RJ)
22:00	Baghdad (RJ)

Other flights (Terminal 2)

18:00	Berlin, Larnaca (IF)
18:20	Cairo (MS)
18:40	Kuwait (LN)
18:50	Muscat, Bahrain (GF)
19:00	Muscat, Bahrain (GF)
19:15	Kuwait (LN)
19:30	Dubai (EK)
19:45	Baghdad (IA)
19:55	Athens, Damascus (OA)
19:55	Frankfurt (LH)
06:45	London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) flights (Terminal 1)

07:45	Aqaba (RJ)
11:00	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
1	
12:30	Athens (RJ)
12:30	Cairo (RJ)
12:30	Jeddah (RJ)
20:30	Kuwait, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
22:00	Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
22:00	Baghdad (RJ)
22:15	Damascus (RJ)
22:15	Cairo (RJ)
23:00	Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
23:00	Bangkok (RJ)

09:00	Damascus, Paris (AF)
18:30	Rome (AF)
11:20	Larnaca, Berlin (IF)
13:20	Cairo (MS)
14:00	Tripoli (LN)
15:00	Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
15:00	Jeddah (SV)
15:35	Kuwait (KU)
16:00	Dubai (EK)
18:20	Athens (OA)
18:30	Baghdad (IA)
20:00	Sana'a (LH)

PRAYER TIMES

04:18	Fajr
05:47	(Sunrise) Duha
12:33	Dhuhr
16:12	'Asr
19:20	Maghreb
20:47	Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Saturday rates

Local selling rates in fils	
Belgian franc	88.1
Dutch guilder	89.8
French franc	162.3
Italian lire	54.9
Japanese yen (for 100)	55.9
Japanese yen (for 100)	25.6
Swedish crown	26.1
Swiss franc	72.5
U.K. sterling pound	223.8
U.S. dollar	544.3
W. German mark	529.3
	182.8

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Slight increase in temperature is expected. Clouds will appear at different altitudes, with occasionally moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

	Min./max. temp.
Amman	7 / 22
Aqaba	15 / 29
Deserts	8 / 24
Jordan Valley	13 / 28

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 20, Aqaba 27. Humidity readings:

Voter registration begins today in all governorates

AMMAN (Petra) — The process of registering voters for parliamentary elections in Jordan starts in all governorates today. Registration will take place at 700 registration offices assigned by the Ministry of Interior. The entire process will last until May 17.

The ministry has said that two registers, one for males and the other for females, will be opened for registering voters in different constituencies; eligible voters are those of 19 years of age and above.

According to the law, people convicted of crimes or individuals whose business have been declared bankrupt and have not yet settled their debts, are not eligible to vote. Also, all members of public security, the armed forces and the civil defence, will not be eligible to vote in the election, according to the law.

In announcing the measure on Wednesday, Minister of Interior Raji Dajani said that eligible voters can go to the registration

centre in their constituencies or send someone on their behalf to register accompanied by the "family book", the official identification document issued by the Civil Registration Department. Once registration is completed in all regions, the lists of eligible voters will be published in each constituency. Three days will be available for any comments, objections, or complaints, according to the minister. He said the preparation of lists was in conformity with Cabinet instructions issued to the governors last month.

The Lower House of Parliament has a mandate that ends in January 1988. The present house is expected to reconvene in ordinary session in October, after a recess that started in late February. An extension of the mandate of the present Lower House or a call for a general election depends wholly on a Royal Decree in accordance with the Jordanian constitution.

Constituencies, allocated seats

Article (1): In accordance with article no. 31 of the election law, the constituencies are to be divided as below:

Article (2): Legislation governing local government divisions in the Kingdom are the basis for defining the constituency boundary (15)

Amman Governorate, the city of Amman; Six Muslim deputies (including one seat for Circassians and Chichins) and 1 Christian deputy.

Amman Governorate with the exception of the city of Amman; Area A: two Muslims, area B: one Muslim. Al-Wadai refugee camp in Amman; one Muslim. Al-Husseini refugee camp in Amman; one Muslim. Al-Mahata refugee camp; one Muslim. Madaba district; Two deputies one Christian and one Muslim. Wadi El Seer sub-district; two Muslim deputies (One of them Christian and Shishan). Sahab, Muwaqqar and Jizah sub-district with the exception of the central area bedouins; one Muslim deputy. Al-Talbiyyeh refugee camp; one Muslim deputy. Na'our sub-district; one Muslim deputy. Thaban sub-district; one Muslim deputy.

Jericho (Jerusalem) Governorate: The city of Jerusalem and Jericho district; six Muslim deputies and four Christian deputies. Ramallah district; six Muslim deputies and two Christian deputies. Bethlehem district; four Muslim deputies and four Christian deputies.

Irbid Governorate; seven Muslim deputies and one Christian deputy.

Irbid refugee camp; one Muslim deputy.

Al-Husan refugee camp; one Muslim deputy.

Ajloun district; two Muslim deputies and one Christian deputy.

Jerash district; two Muslim deputies.

Leja refugee camp; one Muslim deputy.

Souf refugee camp; one Muslim deputy.

Ramtha district; one Muslim deputy.

Northern Ghazal (Jordan Valley) district; one Muslim deputy.

Al-Qarah district; one Muslim deputy.

Bani Kenanah district; two Muslim deputies.

Nabulus Governorate: The city of Nabulus and its sub-district; two Muslim deputies.

Jein district; six Muslim deputies.

Tulkarem district; six Muslim deputies.

Hebron Governorate; ten Muslim deputies.

Al-Balqa Governorate: Salt city and Zai; three Muslim deputies and one Christian deputy.

Al-Balqa Governorate except the city of Salt and Zai; two Muslim deputies and one Christian deputy.

Al-Balqa refugee camp; one Muslim deputy.

Karak Governorate; three Muslim deputies and one Christian deputy.

Ay and Safi districts; one Muslim deputy.

Southern Mazar and Qasr district; three Muslim deputies and one Christian deputy.

Ma'an Governorate except southern bedouin area; two Muslim deputies.

Aqaba Governorate; one Muslim deputy.

Al-Shobak sub-district; one Muslim deputy.

Wadi Mousa sub-district; one Muslim deputy.

Zarqa Governorate; three Muslim deputies (including one for Circassians and Shishans) and one Christian deputy.

Zarqa refugee camp; one Muslim deputy.

Hittin refugee camp; one Muslim deputy.

Mafraq Governorate excluding northern bedouin area; two Muslim deputies.

Tafleh Governorate; three Muslim deputies.

Badia regions:

Northern bedouins (tribes of Bani Khaled, Al-Sarhan, Al-Eissa, Al-Suradeh, Al-Masaeed, Al-Sharfat, Al-Azamat, Al-Tarafshah); two Muslim deputies.

Central bedouins: Bani Sakher (tribes of Al-Ghabeen, Al-Zibeen, Al-Ka'abneh, Saleet, Al-Hiqesh, Al-Khinshan, Al-Joor, Al-Shara' and Al-Badarin); two Muslim deputies.

Southern bedouins/Al-Hweitat tribes (Al-Matalqah, Al-Tawaybeh, Al-Suleimaniyeen, Al-Najadat, Al-Niyamat, Al-Maraiyeh, Al-Zayweidh, Al-Manaen, Al-Hajaya, Bani Atiyeh); two Muslim deputies.

The legal committee also recommends the following: "As the unity of the two banks of Jordan is a standing constitutional unity and since the establishment of this unity, the parliamentary life has been set up equally between the two banks as to the number of deputies represented and since this criteria was previously taken into consideration; the committee therefore recommends that nobody from either of the two banks should stand for election in the other and that the government should take this policy into consideration noting that the refugee camps' elections are to come under the West Bank's candidacies and that the areas to govern under the West Bank's candidacies are to be set up by special rule.



FRIDAY PRAYERS: His Majesty King Hussein performs Friday prayer at the special Royal Guards Mosque. The prayer was also attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Abd Al-Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, and Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mbeilan. The King listened to Friday's sermon which was delivered by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Dr. Abdul Aziz Al-Khayyat in which he reviewed the virtues of fasting and of work in Islam. The King later received congratulations from well-wishers on the occasion of the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan (Petra photo)

Haj Hassan underlines efforts to promote labour movement

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan celebrated Labour Day on Saturday, during which all government departments and public institutions remained closed. Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan said that the government will continue to give due care to the labour movement in the country and has recently extended workers' benefits to Jordanian workers employed abroad.

Speaking at an iftar banquet he hosted at Amra Hotel for leaders of the labour movement in Jordan, the minister said that the workers of Jordan are the wealth of the country and their contributions to Jordan's prosperity are a great source of pride.

At the banquet, Samir Qardan, secretary general of the Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions, made a speech in which he said that the labour unions of the country seek legislation designed for the social and economic needs of the workers today.

The labour unions seek to assist the government in organising labour markets and governmental efforts to work out a



Khaled Al Haj Hassan

sound employment policy which offers work for all and housing for Jordanian workers, Mr. Qardan added.

On the eve of Labour Day, Mr. Haj Hassan said that Jordan's celebration of Labour Day this year coincides with the introduction of measures, whereby by businesses employing five workers or more can be covered by the Social Security law; this will offer more benefits to an additional workers and protection against

old age, death and disability.

The government has set up a committee to help find solutions to unemployment, the minister said. At present the total number of unemployed workers in Jordan is less than 30 per cent of the total number of non-Jordanian workers employed in the Kingdom. The government has been striving to give Jordanians priority in jobs and trying to create new jobs for the unemployed, the minister added.

The minister said that reports of Arab Gulf countries deciding to lay off Jordanian workers are baseless. In fact, the Jordanian workers in these countries are being treated fairly and satisfactorily, he said. According to the minister, Jordanians employed in the Gulf transferred JD 415 million last year, against JD 403 million in 1985.

Lately, the minister said, Saudi Arabia has notified his ministry of its intention to employ an additional 1,300 men and women teachers.

Bridges to close on May 4

AMMAN (Petra) — The King Hussein bridge and 200 across the Prince Mohammad Bridge, across the River Jordan, will be closed on Monday, May 4, for all travellers to and from the occupied Arab territories according to the Public Security Department (PSD).

A PSD statement said that on Sunday, May 3, only 300 travellers will be allowed to cross

the King Hussein bridge and 200 across the Prince Mohammad Bridge to the West Bank. The bridges will then be closed after the passage of these numbers and no more people will be allowed, the statement said.

The PSD called on all travellers to refrain from going to the bridges Sunday unless their travel is urgent.

Hamzeh leaves for health meetings in Switzerland

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Saturday left for Geneva to take part in meetings of the Arab ministers of health's executive council, due to open in Bern later Saturday. Dr. Hamzeh will also take part in the 40th meeting of the World Health Assembly due to begin on Monday.

In a departure statement, Dr. Hamzeh said that the assembly's two week meeting will tackle the world's basic health policies, the past year's work of the World Health Organisation (WHO), and will approve a general budget

for the organisation for the coming two years.

One of the topics on the assembly's agenda, he said, will be the general health conditions of the Arab people under Israeli rule. Another will be the potential effect of nuclear wars on public health.

Also to be discussed is the WHO's assistance to Lebanon, and the refugees of Palestine and Cyprus.

Dr. Hamzeh is accompanied by a delegation of three senior health ministry officials.

First shipment of American wheat to arrive in May

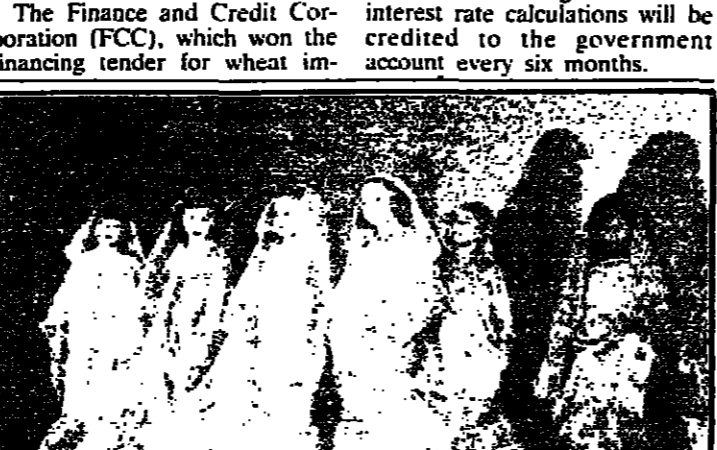
By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan has signed an agreement to import 225,000 tonnes of American wheat at a total cost of \$25 million under a Commodity Export Credit system (CEC) with the financing to be covered by two local finance and credit firms. The first delivery of the shipment will arrive at Aqaba port in May this year and the shipping process will be completed by September, a Jordanian economist said.

The Finance and Credit Corporation (FCC), which won the financing tender for wheat im-

ports for the third successive year, provides for as much as 75 per cent of the loan agreement whereas the Jordan Finance and Investment Corporation (JFIC) will account for the remaining 25 per cent.

Mr. Hani Qaush from the FCC told the Jordan Times that the interest rate on the loan over Labor and market commissions was set at 0.5 per cent and repayment instalments, over a period of seven years, would start one year after the first delivery. Under the loan agreement, the interest rate calculations will be credited to the government account every six months.



CELEBRATION:

Dar Al Tifl, Child Home, last week held a school-day celebration during which children performed dances and chanted slogans. Parents watched the celebration. Third from right is daughter of Jordan Times montagist Yousef Jamal. (Photo by Yousef Jamal)

3 of 4 test-tube babies are in normal condition

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Three out of four test-tube babies born to two Jordanian women here have survived and are in normal condition, Dr. Zaid Keilani, the doctor in charge of the operation, told a news conference.

The first ever test-tube baby boy born on Monday, weighing 2,200 grammes; his twin was "weak" (1,550 grammes) and died after 14 hours.

The second non-identical twin boys were delivered to the second mother after a Caesarian operation on Friday and both are in stable condition at the Khalidi Hospital, where both deliveries were made. The first weighed 2,200 grammes and the second 2,000 grammes.

"Our project was something like an intriguing detective story," Dr. Keilani told reporters who packed an office room at the Khalidi Hospital on Saturday. "But if we had to go through all the prolonged suffering and strain again," he said, "we would happily do it."

Dr. Keilani, flanked by his medical team of Dr. Lena Qahwaji, Dr. Fuad Hashweh and Dr. Raja Karaki, told the conference that "the results were rewarding. It is a thrill to watch these babies growing after all this work."

Dr. Keilani and his team started actual work on their project two years ago, with the first in vitro fertilisation of a woman taking place on May 5, 1985. "As a Jordanian doctor," Dr. Keilani said, "it used to hurt me to see Jordanian women asking me for reports on their conditions in order to seek treatment abroad... it used to be a dead end."

Dr. Keilani and his team have so far handled 100 cases with 40 cases of successful fertilisation. The success rate for test-tube babies is 10 per cent.

Monday's first test-tube baby came after 31 attempts by Dr. Keilani and his team. "The per-

centage compared to other countries is very good," Dr. Keilani said.

Work towards the projects started in 1984 when "against all odds, we started training abroad, in Australia, England, Belgium and West Germany," Dr. Keilani said. "This gave us a lot of confidence."

The green light for such a project in Jordan had to be first obtained from the Kingdom's religious authorities.

"The mufti told us that as long as the sperm and ovule are from the husband and his wife, there is no problem," Dr. Keilani said. "Just don't mix up the tubes."

Friday's delivery of two baby boys took place after several problems during the pregnancy of

the 30-year-old mother, according to Dr. Keilani. He said that "the mother (who conceived after 10 years of sterility) almost aborted. But we were fortunately able to avert the abortion."

"In the seventh month, the mother had high blood pressure and a kind of poisoning and we started shaking," Dr. Keilani said. "We delayed her delivery two weeks and we decided to go ahead yesterday (Friday)... it was a perfect timing."

Dr. Keilani, 49, said the project which is privately financed by the medical team, would continue to expand and "introduce new methods to fight sterility."

Dr. Keilani insisted on "secrecy and privacy" regarding the identity of the two mothers of test-tube babies. "It is a very sensitive issue."

Doctors Hashweh, Qahwaji and Karaki briefed representatives of the press on the medical technicalities and methods used in test-tube in vitro fertilisation.

IPU delegate defends protectionist moves

MANAGUA (Petra) — Jordan is a country that believes in and works toward fairness in international trade, but such fairness cannot be achieved unless it is respected and observed by all nations, said Mr. Rizk Al Bataineh, one of Jordan's delegates to the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) meeting, here Friday.

He said that Jordan has been providing protection to its national industries to protect them from unfair trade competition. This protectionist measure is designed to avoid the harmful results of policies by other nations which tend to flood Third World countries with products at very low prices, he stated.

Jordan is reluctant to take protectionist measures, Mr. Bataineh said, but as a developing country faced with numerous challenges, particularly the continued Israeli occupation of Arab territory, Jordan has no alternative but to protect its industries in order to provide itself with the means of defending its citizens and its soil from aggression.

Mr. Bataineh, who is chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee in the Lower House of Parliament, told the meeting that Israel's occupation of the West Bank has imposed additional burdens on Jordan.

Jordan and its parliament have adopted ideas which they presented to an international conference on development, held in Amman in December 1986.

JORDAN WELFARE LOTTERY

Ordinary issue No 342

Drawing of: May 2, 1987

Winning Tickets

Holder of ticket No. 26111 Wins JD 20,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 800 each wins JD 80 26112 26121 26211 27111 36111 26110 26101 26011 25111 16111
Holder of ticket No. 45258 Wins JD 5,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 400 each wins JD 40 45259 45268 45358 46258 55258 45257 45248 45158 44258 35258
Holder of ticket No. 19613 Wins JD 2,500	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 200 each wins JD 20 19614 19623 19713 10613 29613 19612 19603 19513 18613 09613
Holder of ticket No. 04364 Wins JD 2,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 100 each wins JD 10 04365 04374 04464 05364 14364 04363 04354 04264 03364 54364
Holder of ticket No. 06431 Wins JD 1,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 80 each wins JD 8 06432 06441 06531 07431 16431 06430 06421 06331 05431 56431
Holder of ticket No. 03654 Wins JD 1,000	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 60 each wins JD 6 02655 02664 02754 03654 12654 02653 02644 02554 01654 52654
Holder of ticket No. 29846 Wins JD 800	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 40 each wins JD 4 29847 29856 29946 20846 39846 29845 29836 29746 28846 19846
Holder of ticket No. 22293 Wins JD 600	Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 20 each wins JD 2 22294 22203 22393 23293 32293 22292 22283 22193 21293 12293

Ticket numbers	20249 30221 43978 24170	win JD 200 each
Ticket numbers	35898 23658 54671	win JD 100 each

TICKETS ENDING WITH

4918 5269 3248 8097 8479	Win JD 20 each	7011 3958 1801 0390 8800	Win JD 10 each
299 056 095 986 860	Win JD 5 each		
6000 tickets ending with 1 One Win JD 2 each.			

COVER PRIZES FOR THE LOTTERY SELLERS

Thirty covers, attached to the stub of 10 ending in	730 709 655 803 338	Win JD 10
Winners of the grand prizes in the ordinary issue number 341 of April 17, 1987		

Omar Fodeh Carpenter — Amman First JD 20,000
Mohammad Mohammad Army soldier — Irbid Half second JD 2,500
Jadallah Mahmoud Student — Amman Half third JD 1,250
Nisak Hassan Lab. Technician — Irbid Half third JD 1,250
Abdul Ahad Al-Ashkar Vegetables Salesman — Tabarbour Fourth JD 2,000
Saleh Eklaly Labourer — Amman Half fifth JD 500
Othman Ahmed Merchant — Zarqa Half fifth JD 500

Next Drawing takes place on **May 17, 1987**
First eight biggest prizes are issued from GUVS headquarters.

Ministry says sufficient food supplies available

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Supply spokesman announced that the general supply situation in the country is good and that all food supplies are available in sufficient quantities and at reasonable prices.

He added that large quantities of local chicken, fish and meat

are now available in the markets to meet the shortage in the quantities of imported fresh and frozen meats.

The quantities of imported meats will return to its normal rate during the holy month of Ramadan, the spokesman said.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Free zone is not the solution for Aqaba's economy

DURING the last 25 years, the slogan of a "free Aqaba zone" was raised almost annually as if it was the definite cure for all our economic difficulties or those of Aqaba region.

Advocates of this slogan claim that they are not after encouraging more consumption of imported goods. What they want is the establishment of new industries, they maintain.

As a matter of fact the many industries already established in Aqaba may have to be dismantled and moved somewhere else in the country beyond the "free zone" boundaries. This may be necessary to avoid being treated as foreign industries. Staying in Aqaba would deprive those industries of the benefit from the bilateral and multilateral commercial agreements that Jordan is a party to and which do not cover free zone industries.

The fact that Aqaba is not a free zone did not, in any way, hinder the establishment of industries and tourist enterprises. On the contrary, such firms enjoyed the government's direct support and protection from foreign competition. The support and protection should of course be withdrawn in case the Aqaba region would be transformed into a free zone. Free zones, by definition, could not be supported, subsidised, or protected. Free zones are technically outside the country for all trading, financial, and customs purposes.

Perhaps the only change that would come about by granting Aqaba a free zone status is that the region would open up for the trading of imported goods, such as French perfumes and American cigarettes. Aqaba would become a base for the trafficking of imported goods to a country, Jordan, where import duty tax reaches eighty per cent or more. This would render illegal trafficking extremely profitable.

Duty free zones were established in Eilat and Port Said and turned out to be complete failures, although both ports enjoy better geographical settings than Aqaba. There is no foundation to the belief that the separation of Aqaba, economically and commercially, would bring it prosperity.

Arab countries look to the products of free zones as foreign produce. Jordan would have to change the usual duty on any such commodities if imported from the proposed duty free zone to Amman, just like any other foreign imports. Why should anyone, in his mind, think for a moment that the conversion of Aqaba to a free zone would encourage industry and production, or for that matter, that such production would be able to face up to foreign competition without any form of protection? We do not know in what way the free zone status may help Aqaba to become more

competitive in the export markets in the absence of local cheap labour.

The advocated conversion would create a foreign commodity market for Jordanians to consume at cheaper prices, which would benefit some importers and traders.

But even on this rather negative point, we have to warn the Aqaba local business community that should their city become a free zone, they would not be left alone. They would be flooded by international importers and sharks who would dominate such an activity and strip locals from their present business. Under free zone arrangement there would be no discrimination between local producers or businessmen and foreigners. We have every reason to fear that our people would fight a losing battle, and would be uprooted by foreign fierce competition for which they are not get ready and well equipped.

It is in everyone's interest to close this chapter for good, and to cease raising this empty slogan from time to time. It is harmful to Jordan in general and to Aqaba in particular. We would be better off looking into real solutions to our economic woes rather than jumping over ropes of fiction.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Saturday's

Al Ra'i: Holding the nation's banner

THE Jordanian people today observe with pride the 34th anniversary of King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers in the Kingdom. For the past three decades the King has been upholding the banner of the Great Arab Revolt and has been striving to attain a brighter and prosperous future for the Jordanian family. He has been committed to the Arab Nation's cause and has translated his words into deeds in all his actions and in his relentless drive to unify Arab ranks and build intrinsic Arab power which is an indispensable factor in the nation's continuous drive towards regaining its rights and its usurped land. Under King Hussein's wise leadership the Kingdom has gone a long way towards meeting the aspirations of the Jordanian citizens in achieving economic and social development, thus transforming Jordan into an oasis of prosperity in the Middle East region. This country has been serving as an example of stability, a model of national unity and fortress of steadfastness and determination for achieving what is best for all members of the Jordanian family. King Hussein's care for and tremendous efforts towards building the armed forces has transformed these forces into a solid shield, protecting the nation. The Jordanian people who celebrate the anniversary remember these achievements and many more, carried out under the King's rule.

Al Dustour: No separate deals

JORDAN, represented by its Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib has denied that it has reached agreement with Israel on conditions for holding the proposed international conference. Jordan's position is firm and unchangeable with regard to a lasting and comprehensive settlement to be implemented through such conference in which all concerned parties and the U.N. Security Council members should participate. Jordan has been striving relentlessly for convening the conference for the sake of implementing Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which had been accepted by Jordan, Egypt and Syria, the three Arab states whose lands were occupied by Israeli forces. An international conference was held in 1973 attended by Jordan, Egypt and Syria in addition to Israel but it did not achieve any result due to Israel's intransigence. Ever since that meeting, Jordan along with the Arab countries have been seeking to reconvene the international parley so that the Security Council resolutions can be implemented and Arab rights restored. But Israel and the United States which have both been placing obstacles in the path of such conference succeeded in 1979 in concluding the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, thus deviating real peace and a lasting and comprehensive settlement from their sound course. The Israeli propaganda campaign and the falsehoods about Jordan's agreement with Israel can only mean that the enemy is trying to draw a wedge among Arab countries to cause further splits within the Arab ranks, an attempt to undermine Jordan's national endeavours.

Sawt Al Shaab: 34 years of progress

IT has been 34 years since King Hussein assumed his constitutional powers as King of Jordan. During this period the country realised numerous achievements and has been enjoying a great deal of security, peace and prosperity. Above all, Jordan has been able to strengthen its steadfastness and confront its challenges and overcome all obstacles in the path of progress. Over the past 34 years, King Hussein has been raising the banner of the Great Arab Revolt and has continuously been striving for achieving the principles and the objectives of that revolt to serve the Arab Nation. The armed forces of Jordan serve as the army of the Great Arab Revolt in leading the drive to defend the Arab homeland under the Hashemite leadership. Jordan, under King Hussein, has been an advocate of solidarity among Arab countries and an active catalyst in every endeavour leading to a unification of ranks and pooling of resources in the face of the common threats and dangers. Jordan, under King Hussein, has been a pioneer in the on-going endeavours for backing the struggle of the Palestinian people for regaining their rights and their homeland.

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Shamir repeats himself

ISRAEL'S prime minister has ended a visit to France by reiterating Israel's position with regard to the proposed international conference. Yitzhak Shamir seems to have told France's Prime Minister Jacques Chirac the same ideas like those he delivered in Washington, and these namely concern direct negotiations with the Arabs. France, like the other members of the European Community nations, is totally convinced that the U.S.-Israeli ideas can not contribute in any way to the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Any efforts outside the framework of the international conference can not yield any lasting settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and can by no means lead to the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland. An international conference means the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 338 and 242 which Israel is trying to avoid with all its power because it does not want to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories. Shamir is afraid that at an international conference Israel will be forced to abandon the territory it has been occupying since 1967. Israel is trying hard to perpetuate its occupation of Arab land and unless the Arabs take concerted action to thwart its objectives nothing could ever be done to regain Arab land.

Al Dustour: Shamir's failure

YITZHAK Shamir's visit to France has ended with total failure because he had gone to Paris with the same Israeli ideas which are aimed at perpetuating Israel's occupation of the Arab lands. Shamir went to Paris carrying the idea of direct talks with each Arab state and imposing a de facto situation on every Arab neighbour, contrary to France's idea of an international conference where all concerned parties can meet and bring about an implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions that ensure the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Palestinian land and the recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people. All Shamir's efforts to persuade the French leaders to accept his ideas ended in failure and the government of France reiterated its firm position of supporting an international conference to achieve peace. Thus, France has again displayed to the world its deep faith in the proposed conference as a means of achieving justice in the Middle East through the implementation of United Nations resolutions. This French position reflects Paris's thorough perception of the real situation in the region and its desire to bring about a lasting peace to its people.

No end seen to Bangladesh's bloody hill war

By Anis Ahmad
Reuters

MANOGARH, Bangladesh — Sunset brings homes the full terror of the rebellion which has raged through Bangladesh's Chittagong hill tracts for 14 years.

The 2,000 villagers of Manogarah, a sprawling settlement of straw huts, are afraid to leave their homes after dark.

They cower in darkness, not even daring to light a lamp in case it attracts a burst of gunfire from either government forces or tribal rebels.

"We are hostages in an apparently pointless war," one village headman who requested anonymity told Reuters.

The villagers are caught between troops of the Muslim-dominated Bangladesh government and rebels who come mainly from the Buddhist Chakma tribe.

Bangladesh, which means "Bengal nation" is home to 100 million of some of the poorest people in the world.

The simple pressure of too many people has driven many Muslim Bengalis from the delta plains into the hills occupied by tribal peoples of different cul-

tures and religion.

The rebels, known as the Shanti Bahini (Peace Force), took up arms in 1973 to oppose the government-sponsored resettlement of Bengalis and to press for autonomy for the hill tracts, which border Burma and India's Tripura state.

Although the Bangladesh government halted the resettlement programme in 1985, the war goes on. More than 1,100 civilians and 200 soldiers have been killed so far and there seems no end in sight.

Mistrust on both sides as military and guerrilla operations lengthen the toll of victims makes talks between the two sides unlikely.

"I am afraid the hill war will drag on for many more years unless the government seeks a truly political solution with the rebels," said Abdul Rashid, a businessman in the hill tracts village of Rangamati.

But tribal leaders told Reuters the major problem was the settlers, who now make up more than 40 per cent of the hill tracts' population of 550,000.

The tribal leaders accused the settlers of encroaching on tribal land and trying to destroy tribal

culture.

"The Shanti Bahini would disappear once you drive the settlers away from the predominantly Chakma areas and stop bringing in more people from the plains," one tribal leader said.

The government has mobilised 15,000 army and paramilitary troops to tackle the Shanti Bahini.

It has also announced an \$88 million development scheme for the hills and, after halting the resettlement programme offered an amnesty to the rebels.

Dhaka accuses India of giving sanctuary, arms and training to the guerrillas — charges New Delhi denies.

The rebellion has become a major headache for India, which is playing reluctant host to an estimated 50,000 refugees who have fled into Tripura to escape the fighting.

"Villages after villages were burned by the army or the Shanti Bahini, forcing people to flee across the border," said Rashid, who has been living in the hill tracts since 1977.

India and Bangladesh have just completed two days of fruitless talks on the return of the refugees.

In January, 26,000 refused to leave India under a repatriation scheme, telling Indian officials they feared persecution either from Dhaka government forces or the guerrillas.

Former guerrillas said the amnesty failed largely because the Bangladesh government did not keep its promises of land,

money and jobs for rebels who surrendered.

"I surrendered with more than 200 other guerrillas following the government's promise. Now after years of near-starvation, I sometimes think of going back to the Shanti Bahini," a former rebel commander told Reuters.

Despite army assertions that the Shanti Bahini has been almost wiped out, the guerrillas, estimated to number about 2,500, have been able to mount lethal attacks in the rugged, heavily forested hill tracts.

In the first two months of this year, they killed at least 35 settlers, including two pregnant women and several children.

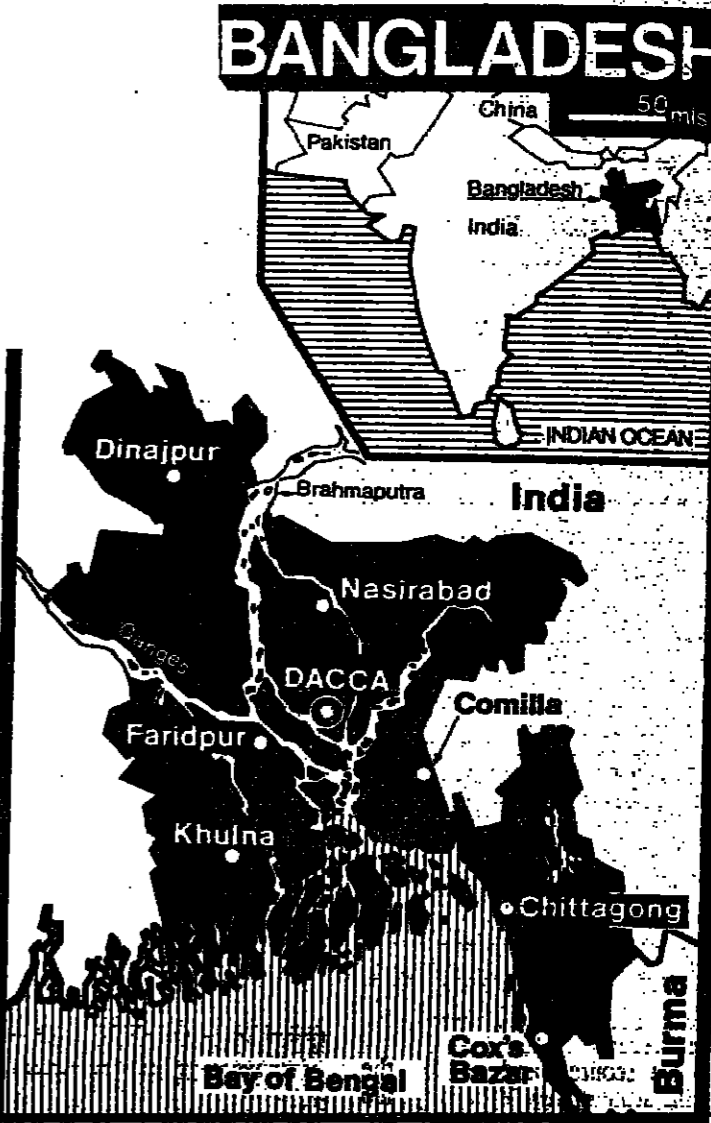
In a statement, the Shanti Bahini said: "Whether we are killing adults or minors makes no difference. Our war is to drive the invaders out of our homeland and all settlers are our enemies."

Even though it has been accused of assaults and extortion against fellow tribesmen, the Shanti Bahini has much support among the 165,000 Chakmas, who make up half the hill tracts' tribal population.

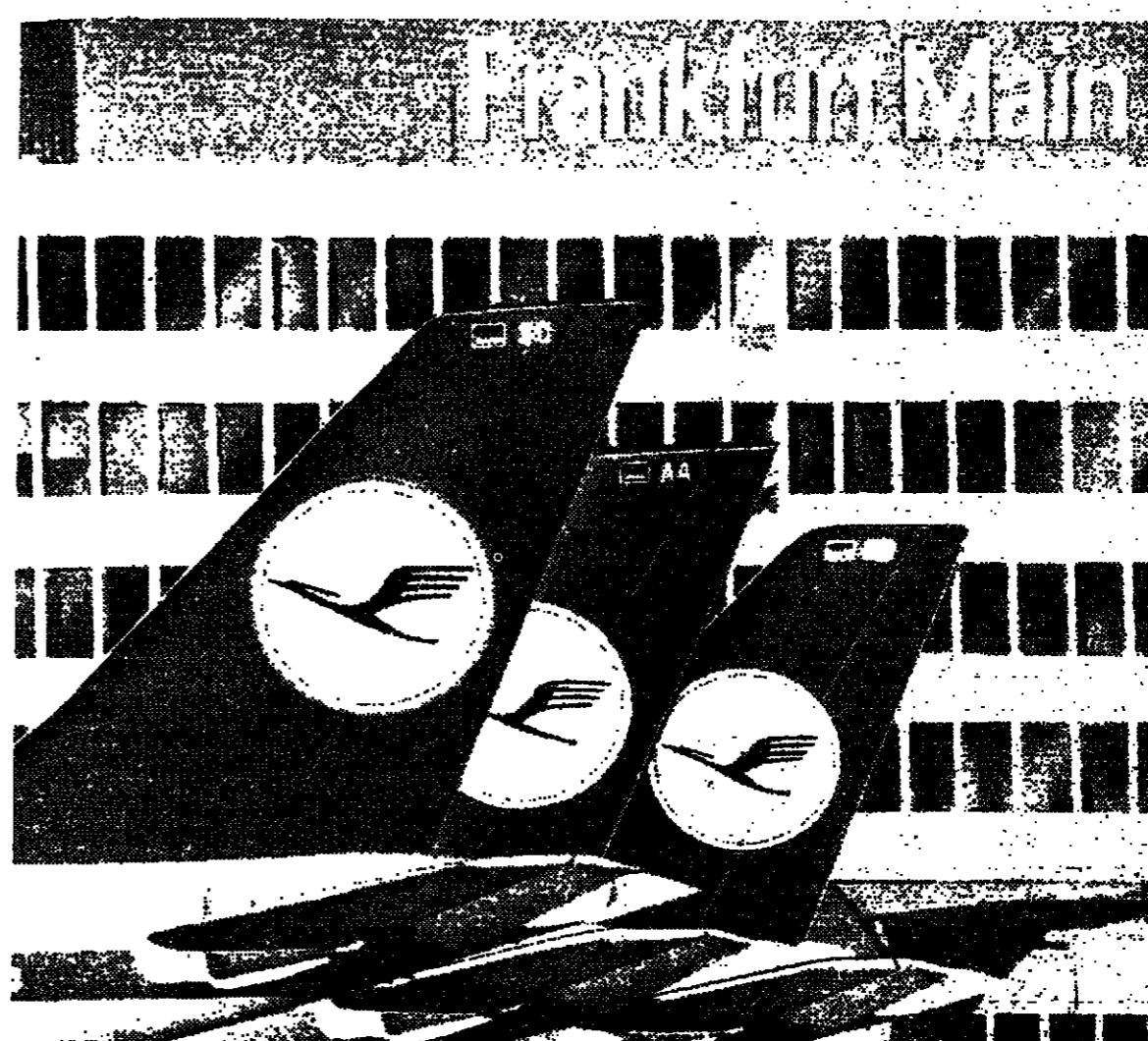
"Those in the Shanti Bahini are our sons and brothers. We cannot turn our backs on them because they are fighting for us," said Manogarah villager Manindra Chakma.

"They became rebels after the government took away their land and gave it to non-tribals, tortured tribal women and burnt their homes."

He added: "What can we do? We are caught in the cross-fire."



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Toward a better handling of employment

By Dr. Ahmad Majdouben

IN battling the unemployment of university and community-college graduates — that of skilled labour must be considered separately — the government is proceeding quite firmly and steadily on two fronts: Specific short-term measures and long-term planning. The recent decision to create a substantial number of slots within some of the largest and most vital ministries, like Education and Health, will reduce unemployment quite noticeably. More important, in my opinion, is the earlier and more strategic decision which requires that applications to vacancies in government branches be processed through the Civil Service Commission (CSC).

This latter step is unquestionably positive. For one thing, it saves the applicant, and the individual personnel offices, the time, expense, and psychological trauma of redundant applications. In fact, thanks to another recent measure, one does not have to go to the CSC's premises, for he or she can fill out the job application, easily and conveniently, at home and post it at a near-by post office. We hope that all similar transactions with the public sector will be conducted in the same manner.

Such reform in the employment process, however simple in appearance, is absolutely necessary. Unemployment itself will be with us, as with the rest of the world, for quite some time. We do not hope for magical solutions. It would indeed be grossly unreasonable to expect a country so limited in resources and potential to put an end to unemployment overnight. But while unemployment is, undeniably, a serious problem, there is an equally vexing one related to the handling of employment — on which we expect the government to take a better stand. Undoubtedly, the state has the right to demand from its citizens to wait in line patiently, but the citizen in turn has the right to demand fairness in treatment. As things stand, there is not enough justice in the processing of applications.

There are three problems preventing justice in employment. The first is related to the CSC's selection logic. Priority in hiring through the CSC is determined not according to the application date, but the date of graduation. A 1982 graduate, irrespective of when he applies, gets hired before a 1985 graduate. On a first glance, this seems quite reasonable. But it is not. Imagine the following scenario: the '85 graduate filed the application at the CSC immediately upon graduation and has for two years been waiting for his turn, when out of sudden the '82 graduate, who had been working (i.e. in the Gulf) since then and who had not applied to the CSC before, decides to apply. The latter takes the slot of the former, who will have to wait another year now. I think it is more reasonable to use the date of application as the basis for selection, for it — and not the graduation date — expresses the true priority.

There is a second, bipartite problem. Not all government bodies recruit through the CSC. There are not semi-independent establishments (i.e. universities, Radio Station, etc.), but hard-core public

ones (i.e. several ministries and their departments) which do their own hiring totally independently. I think it is fair, for those whose applications are piling in the CSC's cabinets, to have all those applying for positions in the public sector go through the CSC channel.

There are, more significant, other establishments which are supposed to coordinate with the CSC, but which wittingly violate the arrangement. This is indeed a serious problem. A lot of behind-the-scenes hiring takes place in order to accommodate friends and relatives. Such acts are not only immoral, but also damaging to the establishment itself, for those who are sneaked through the back door are usually incompetent, spoiled, good-for-nothing individuals who will not do the job properly. What is really sad is that such practice is quite widespread.

This latter point brings us, thirdly, to the more general and crucial issue. Whether at the CSC or the various individual personnel offices, personal connections seem to still play a decisive role in employment. The applicant might be outstanding and exceptional, but unless he finds an influential relative or friend to pull some strings for him, his chances remain very slim. The blame here lies on both the hiring party and the citizen. The personnel staff are to blame because they (since most of them do not enjoy a strong sense of commitment and pride in their establishment) bow quite easily to pressure from friends and acquaintances. In fact most take pride in such unethical behaviour: Doing a favour to a friend is far more important than the welfare of the establishment itself or even the country. But the citizen is also to blame. The majority of our people, including — regrettably — the "enlightened," "educated" ones see absolutely nothing wrong in approaching employers through the back door.

The solution is two-fold. First, we need to make it a rule to minimise the number of those in charge of employment. The fewer personnel offices the better. Doing the recruiting through the CSC is positive precisely because it limits the number of those involved. We can only wish — and this is perhaps what the government intends to do — that all vacancies in the public sector will be filled through the CSC.

Secondly, we ought to pay serious attention to the psychological roots of the problem. The people taking care of employment ought to be trained not just administratively, but also morally. Unless they respect the values of fairness and equal opportunity and unless they refrain from breaking the laws and regulations which aim to foster such goals all efforts to achieve an acceptable degree of justice will fail. The citizen, likewise, will have to be educated. Such task will take a lot of time and effort no doubt, but is absolutely essential. We hope that our national development plans will address such subtle problems more seriously.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sun. — May 3, 1987

8:30 Growing Pains: Call Me

Dozens of calls to a sexy recorded message inflame the Seaver's phone bill and nobody will admit to being the culprit.

9:10 Doc. — On The Road

A special documentary programme which relates traffic accidents and their reasons.

10:20 Robbery Under Arms

Mon. — May 4, 1987

8:30 Ever Decreasing Circles (Episode 4)

9:10 Moonlighting: The Man Who Cried Wife

10:20 Out On A Limb (Last Episode)

Her Revelations: Shirley gets a first-hand look at the Plains of Nazca, where long, flat strips of soil are theorised to be landing fields for ancient astronauts. She speaks with an Indian psychic who will correctly predict the victory of a dark-horse candidate, Ed Koch, over Bella in the New York mayoral election. She experiments with astral projection and learns secrets of deep meditation enabling mind to triumph over matter. But most importantly, she experiences an incredible revelation concerning the direction of her life.

Tue. — May 5, 1987

8:30 You Again

9:10 Yesterday's Dreams Ep. 5.

Mathew suddenly comes to his grand father's house in the country side. A fierce confrontation takes place between him and his father. Martin seeks help from Diana.

10:20 The Unknown

11:10 Bergerac

Wed. — May 6, 1987

8:30 Symposiums of Islamic Jurisprudence

9:10 In Search of Trojan War (Episode 3)

The Sinner of Tales

Homer was a story-teller of the Eighth Century B.C. The *Iliad* is 16,000 lines long. Yet the events he describes so vividly — if indeed they are real — took place 500 years before he lived, a period during which writing ceased to exist in Greece. This programme attempts to show how the story of Troy, as written by Homer, could actually go back to a Bronze-Age war poem about a real event. In County Mayo, in the West of Ireland, a Gaelic tale-teller shows how his art works, and then in Kars, in Turkish Armenia, a professional bard delivers part of a 500-year-old Turkish epic, the length of Homer's *Iliad*, to a live audience. In this way it is demonstrated that an oral tradition can pass on a story over 10 or more generations.

10:20 Bestseller The Bastard



The Bastard — Wed. at 10:20

"The Bastard" is a four-hour, two-part presentation of the popular John Jakes novel. A highly dramatic adventure-romance, this is the story of Philippe Charboneau, the illegitimate son of a French actress and English nobleman, his struggle for paternal recognition, and the consequences which lead him to pursue a life of freedom and adventure in America during the Revolutionary War.

Starring: Andrew Stevens as Philippe Charboneau, Patricia Neal as Marie Charboneau.

Thu. — May 7, 1987

8:30 Me And My Girl

9:10 The Challenge

Newport, 1982. America's cup defender Dennis Conner chooses his skipper and crew. He is as tough with them as he is with himself. He is not happy with the

two boats he has been developing at their trails, they have not been fast enough. Though abusive towards Valentin, Conner tells the designer to continue development of the best boat possible for the defence.

10:20 Feature Film Antony & Cleopatra

Starring: Charlton Heston Hildegard Neil

The film deals with the well-known story about Mark Antony who ruled the eastern wing of the Roman Empire in Egypt and his relationship with Cleopatra.

Fri. — May 8, 1987

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

9:10 Falcon Crest

10:20 Play of the Week

Ice on the move molds the face of the earth

National Geographic

WASHINGTON — If it seems as if we're in the midst of an ice age, it may not be simply because it is the middle of winter.

The ice age has really not left earth for two million years, geologists say. For the last 12,000 years, we have been living in only a slightly warmer spell of it.

At the peak of the last great icy time, some 18,000 years ago when Cro-Magnon man lived, thick ice and snow buried more than three-tenths of the world's land area.

Ice scoured and heaped the hills around New York City, fed the river courses that meet at St. Louis, gouged the Great Lake basins and Norwegian fiords.

Goodbye Chicago

"Someday — soon, say some climatologists, who think in millennia — ice could creep south again over North America to bulldoze away Chicago and shove its wreckage to St. Louis," wrote Samuel W. Matthews in the January National Geographic.

Ice still covers one-tenth of all earth's land and an entire ocean, the Arctic.

Almost 90 per cent of today's ice lies atop the Antarctic continent — 7 million cubic miles of ice, as much as 12,140 feet thick. And Antarctica is literally a desert; most of it gets less than 2 inches of snow a year. But that snow scarcely ever melts.

Ice, which brings streams and waterfalls to frozen stillness, can also, by continued melting, slowly raise the level of all the oceans.

Ice can be a killer on streets. It can ground planes, sink ships, break water pipes, cut off electricity, flood farms, and freeze crops. Hailstorms have caused more economic damage in the United States, primarily through crop destruction, than tornadoes.

But ice also can give a warm protective coating to Florida strawberry plants in winter. When below-freezing temperatures are forecast, the plants are sprayed with water, which encases the strawberries at 32 F, a temperature at which they can survive.

"A remarkable stuff indeed," Matthews writes. Not only does ice produce heat while freezing and absorb it in melting; it floats, because (unlike almost every other substance) it is lighter as a solid than as a liquid.

If it were not for this phenomenon, ice cubes dropped in a glass of water would sink to the bottom. Icebergs would not float. Lakes, rivers, and seas would freeze from the bottom up. The world would be in deep, cold trouble.

"Ice is one of nature's most beautiful and elegant substances," writes Matthews. It can form in the atmosphere as lacy, delicate crystals: snow. Thoreau called snowflakes chariot wheels fallen from a battle in the sky.

Ice surges forward

When one year's snowfall does not melt before the next year's snow, a glacier is born. In a phenomenon called surge, glaciers can race at 10 to 100 times their normal rate, writes John L.



Runaway ice walls, such as this one formed by Alaska's advancing Hubbard Glacier, possess the power to create and destroy the face of the Earth. Although the great ice sheets began retreating about 14,000 years ago, countless thousands of

Eliot in a companion article. Alaska's giant Hubbard Glacier, which has been moving forward for more than a century, suddenly surged last spring. It blocked a saltwater fiord, creating a freshwater lake that swelled for five months, then emptied in a thunderous torrent as the glacial dam burst. The Hubbard's advance will almost surely continue, Eliot reports.

When snow becomes thicker year after year, it compresses by sheer weight and gradually turns to ice. If this process goes on long enough and widely enough, an ice sheet develops.

Such an ice sheet covered much of the northern half of North America during the Pleistocene epoch; the glacial age began about 2.5 million years ago. In the past million years, there have been at least nine full glacial periods, which lasted about 100,000 years each. The warm spells in between, interglacials, have been as short as 10,000 years.

At the most recent icy peak 18,000 years ago, ice in New England had to be at least 4,000 feet deep to have covered the White and Green Mountains. Over Hudson Bay, it must have been more than two miles thick.

As the ice melted from North America, from northern Europe, from the icebergs that spilled from Antarctica and Greenland, the seas steadily rose. The rise has been put at close to 360 feet. It left the face of the globe much as it looks now.

Is the ice on Antarctica today shrinking, growing, or in balance? Scientists are deeply divided, Matthews reports. Most admit they don't know, and say it will take years, if not decades, of further research to find out.

If polar ice collapses?

Some have calculated that a total collapse of West Antarctic ice, with the ice shelves gone, would cause a rise in sea level worldwide of 14 to 20 feet in as little as two to five centuries. But

glaciers still lie upon the global landscape, which remains about 10 per cent ice. In Alaska, covered by about 30,000 square miles of ice, more than 20 glaciers show signs of rapid advance.

Until now, it had been thought that ice lay deep on Antarctica as long as 15, even 30, million years ago. But three Ohio State geologists, Peter-Noel Webb, David M. Harwood, and John H. Mercer, have identified tree stems, roots, pollen, and tiny fossils of open-water marine life as being 2 million to 4 million years old.

These findings require a major and radical rethinking of Antarctica's long glacial history, Matthews concludes.

James Bond's latest girlfriend takes acting seriously

By Ronald Clarke Reuter

LOS ANGELES — James Bond's new girlfriend sits in her elegant hotel room chomping on a lettuce leaf.

"I take my acting very seriously," Maryam D'Abo splutters. "I didn't come into this world just to be a pretty face."

A press agent rushes forward to pat her on the back. A waiter provides a glass of water.

D'Abo needs to be preserved as undoubtedly the first in a long line of glamorous Bond girls to have played leading ladies in "Spartacus" and "Cyrano de Bergerac" on the French stage.

She plays Kara Milovy, a double-dealing Czechoslovak cellist, opposite the latest film Bond, Welshman Timothy Dalton, in "The Living Daylights," to be released this summer.

The 26-year-old daughter of a Russian mother and a father of English and Dutch extraction, D'Abo runs a hand through her thick blonde hair as she emphasises her dedication to acting.

"I don't take myself seriously, but acting — that is another matter," she says in flawless English after recovering from her fit of choking.

Dressed in a fashionably long white shirt and blouse under a broad-shouldered yellow jacket, D'Abo sits in the middle of her vast room in Le Bel Age hotel, one of the most expensive in Los Angeles, elegantly thrusting a fork into a cheese salad. There are no Bond touches, no caviar or champagne, on hand.

She went to a speech teacher to learn how to speak with a Czechoslovak accent for the film. "I wanted just a mild accent, so

I had only four lessons," she explains. "And I took cello lessons every day," D'Abo adds. "Bond films may be loaded with spectacular stunts — you will see me travelling down a mountainside with Timothy on a runaway sled — but I am an extremely intelligent woman in this film."

She can count among her predecessors in the 16 Bond films Grace Jones (A View to Kill), Ursula Andress (Dr. No), Maud Adams (Octopussy) and Jane Seymour (Live and Let Die).

"You appear in a big, expensive film and, in Hollywood, they call you a star. In England, they don't give a damn," says the actress, who was born in England, educated in Paris and Geneva, and learned French as her first language.

"I love living in London, even if I get a cold each winter. I have a tiny house in the London suburb of Fulham and I drive a tiny Renault," she says. "But at least I am driving a new Renault now, thanks to 'The Living Daylights'."

She showed up for her audition for the role wearing a two-layer skirt, an outfit she considered "sexy and casual."

"The film director, John Glen, asked me if I was wearing a tablecloth," she says with a hearty laugh.

She says she wasn't nervous, thinking she was one of hundreds of actresses trying out for the part. Later, she learned she was the only one being considered.

"The film people rang me after a few days and said 'guess what, you have the main role'."

It was a surprise for an actress who had been seen only briefly in the films "Out of Africa" and



Maryam D'Abo

"White Nights" and was studying acting in London.

"When I'm not working I eat a lot," she says. "I also take singing lessons."

"People here ask me if I'm really a stage actress. I say, frankly, I would not call myself a stage actress because I am still a learner and there is so much amazing talent — people like Denholm Elliott and Peggy Ashcroft — on the stage in England."

When the first Bond film, Dr. No, starring Sean Connery, was made in 1962, D'Abo was two years old. D'Abo saw her first Bond film when she was 13 and has now seen them all.

Asked how she felt about Bond stars, such as Sean Connery and Roger Moore, being able to appear in a string of Bond films whilst their leading ladies seldom last more than one film D'Abo says firmly that was how it should

be. "Bond girls have an air of mystery about them," she says. "That would be lost if they kept coming back in film after film."

D'Abo also says she had to be grateful Moore had retired as Bond. Dalton, a 40-year-old Shakespearean actor, is 18 years younger than Moore.

"A member of the staff of Albert ('Cubby') Broccoli, the film's producer, told me I look young and the age gap would have been too wide for a serious romance if Moore had still been Bond," D'Abo says.

"Timothy Dalton is a real professional," she adds.

"In a Bond film you can be noticed very, very fast. A Bond film has worldwide recognition. 'Film parts are hard to come by these days.'

"I wake up each morning and say to myself, 'I am a lucky girl.'"

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Everton moves closer to title

LONDON (R) — Everton, on the verge of winning the English soccer championship for the past two weeks, squandered two points when they were held to a goalless draw at home by bottom club Manchester City Saturday.

Nearest rivals Liverpool lost 1-0 at Coventry and an Everton victory would, barring some highly improbable results, have given them back the championship they surrendered to Liverpool, a year ago.

But Everton can guarantee themselves the title if they win at Norwich on Monday.

One title was confirmed when Glasgow Rangers, in match full of incident, including the sending off of skipper Graeme Souness, drew 1-1 with Aberdeen.

That point was enough to give them the championship for the first time since 1978 because back in Glasgow, arch rivals Celtic crashed surprisingly and disastrously 2-1 to lowly Falkirk.

Everton had won their last ten league games at home while City, with only seven victories all season, have not won away in any competition for 16 months.

Mecir beats rain and opponent

HAMBURG (R) — Miloslav Mecir overcame the twin problems of steady rain and an almost equally persistent opponent in Eduardo Bengoechea of Argentina to reach the final of the \$375,000 West German Open Saturday.

The second-seeded Czechoslovak, through to his sixth final this year, won 7-6, 6-1 in a match which began 43 minutes late because of rain and was later broken off for more than an hour and a half for the same reason.

Bengoechea, 27, ranked only 30 in the world, had beaten three seeds in his best performance in 11 years on the tennis circuit and he was in no mood to give up easily.

Mecir made twice to lead 3-0 in a first set played in light rain but the Argentine reeled off four games in a row to lead 4-3.

Mecir, winner here in 1985 and losing finalist last year, finally took the tiebreak 7-4 and was 2-1 up in the second set when the match was interrupted by heavier rain.

After the players returned, Mecir was completely in control, needing just 16 minutes to take the last four games.

"It was quite difficult to play in the rain," he said.

City defied expectations with a confident display that deserved more. Dagerman Paul Stewart, a constant threat, slammed a shot against the Everton bar after 58 minutes as City proved full of surprises.

Everton had another escape when one of their former players, Imre Varadi, hit the angle of the bar and upright with ten minutes left.

To add to Everton's frustrations they lost their England midfielder Peter Reid through injury after only 26 minutes.

Liverpool found English F.A. (Football Association) Cup finalists Coventry in buoyant form and a nick picking goal after 49 minutes sent the 27,000 crowd, Coventry's biggest for years, home delighted.

Tottenham's slimmer than slim chance of surprising the top two finally disintegrated when they were beaten 2-0 at Nottingham Forest.

Everton have three games left and are four points clear of Liverpool who have only two more matches to play, at home to Watford and away to Chelsea.

After their trip to Norwich, Everton wind up their season with home games against Luton and Tottenham.

City's point at Everton has

surely come too late and Aston Villa, beaten 2-1 at Arsenal are also in dire straits.

The only consolation for both of them were the defeats of nearest fellow strugglers Charlton, Leicester and Oxford, Charlton and Oxford both lost 1-0 at home, to Luton and Norwich, while Leicester were beaten 3-1 at Chelsea.

Sheffield Wednesday soared away from trouble with a 7-1 win over Queen's Park Rangers, David Hirst and Brian Marwood each scoring twice.

At the top of the second division, Derby County made sure of promotion with a 2-1 win over Leeds in front of a 20,000-strong crowd.

In Scotland Rangers fought bravely after the dismissal of Souness to earn the priceless point.

Souness, the former Scotland captain who was sent off in the opening game of the season, received his marching orders in the 30th minute after two previous warnings.

England international Terry Butcher put Rangers ahead ten minutes later. Aberdeen equalised through Brian Irvine just before the interval.

Celtic were a goal down after only a minute and it was an hour before they levelled through a penalty by Brian McClair. Then with four minutes left Jimmy Gilmore crushed the hopes of the Celtic faithful with a second goal for Falkirk.

Malaysia upsets favourites New Zealand in golf semifinals

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Brothers Nazamudin and Sahabudin Yusof kept their composure to help hosts Malaysia score an upset 2-1/2 to 1/2 victory over favourites New Zealand in the semifinals of the Dunhill Cup Pacific Golf Final.

In the other semifinals on Saturday, the Philippines scored their expected victory over Hong Kong by two to one, to meet Malaysia in the final today.

Malaysia's top golfer, Marimuthu Ramayah, shared the point with Greg Turner of New Zealand when both golfers carded a two-under 69.

Nazamudin, who was leading Simon Owen by two strokes, shot into the bunker in the 18th hole but recovered well to play par golf and give his team the lead.

Owen recovered a stroke on the final hole with an easy three-foot putt but it was too late to

catch the Malaysian.

New Zealander Frank Nabilo was trailing by a stroke in the first nine. He fought a neck-to-neck battle with Sahabudin Yusof in the second nine but ended a stroke behind.

The New Zealanders were disappointed with the defeat but Owen said the team would pick itself up against Hong Kong today to win a trip to St. Andrews in Scotland.

Three countries go on from here to contest the Dunhill Cup at St. Andrews from October 1 to 4.

Philippines Frankie Minoza and Rudy Laveres returned scores of 71 and 69 to beat Tang Shu Wing's and Alex Tang's 75 and 76 for Hong Kong.

Hong Kong's Yau Sui Ming reduced the deficit when he beat Eddie Bagtas 71-73.

Malaysia beat New Zealand 2 1/2 to 1/2 Marimuthu Ramayah 69 Greg Turner 69, Nazamudin Yusof 74 Simon Owen 75, Sahabudin Yusof 71 Frank Nabilo 72.

Philippines beat Hong Kong 2-1: Frankie Minoza 71 Tang Shu Wing 75, Rudy Laveres 69 Alex Tang 76, Eddie Bagtas 73 Yau Sui Ming 71.



AL FAISALI RETAINS TITLE: Minister of which retained the cup after beating Al Arabi Club Youth Eid Dahiyat presents the Cup Winners Cup 1-0 in the finals late Friday (Photo Yousef Al 'Allan) to Ibrahim Mustafa, captain of Al Faisali Club

Jaccuzzi session works wonders for classic winner

NEWMARKET, England (R) — Don't Forget Me, declared fit to run only two hours before the race, won the English 2,000 Guineas in sparkling style Saturday.

The tough colt made every yard of the running to win the second horse-racing classic of the season — yet only hours earlier connections doubted whether he would be able to run.

The trouble started when the horse lost his shoe in his horse box on the journey to the course on Friday, cutting his foot in the process.

Trainer Richard Hannon sat up all Friday night applying a poultice and ice packs and then on Saturday morning a vet recommended more ice be applied while the horse's foot rested in a jaccuzzi.

Don't Forget Me was only declared a certain runner two hours before the race but shrugged off his problems in convincing fashion.

Ridden by Willie Carson, the 9-1 chance held off the powerful late run of second favourite Bellotto (7-1), the mount of champion Pat Eddery, by a neck.

Most Welcome (14-1) finished a length away in third but was later disqualified for an incident involving the warm 6-5 favourite Ajdal.

The previously unbeaten colt had been strongly fancied to give Sheikh Mohammed of Dubai his first success in this classic.

After being reluctant to go into the starting stalls Ajdal raced just behind the leading group.

But when jockey Walter Swinburn asked Ajdal for the final effort Most Welcome, with Paul Eddery on board, hampered his rival at an important stage although it is almost certain the colt would not have caught the

winner.

The stewards decided there had been accidental interference and disqualified Most Welcome, sporting the colours of the 1983 Derby winner Teenoso.

Midyan (12-1), ridden by Steve Cauthen who had won the three previous races of the afternoon, was promoted from fourth to third while Ajdal was moved up from fifth to fourth.

Don't Forget Me had run Ajdal to three quarters of a length in the craven stakes and with Saturday's stronger pace his success was not a total surprise.

It was only the second classic victory for trainer Hannon who won this race in 1973 with 50-1 Outsider Mon Filis but Carson, now nearing the veteran stage, was winning the race for the third time following High Top in 1972 and Known Fact seven years ago.

Don't Forget Me recorded the fastest time for 20 years and not even Pat Eddery's typical power-packed finish on Bellotto could dislodge former champion Carson.

Vet Mike O'Gorman, who treated Don't Forget Me, said: "When I looked at him at 6.30 this morning I thought he had no chance. Then I remembered a similar thing with Horage (a winner at Royal Ascot a few years ago) and I thought it was worth a go."

Hannon said: "We had to stand his leg in an ice bucket for more than five hours. We borrowed all the ice from the local hotel then we borrowed a jaccuzzi from another trainer and by midday the horse was sound again."

He added: "We shall have to think now about the Irish 2,000 Guineas and he is entered in the Epsom Derby as well."

Senna takes pole position in San Marino Grand Prix

IMOLA, Italy (R) — Ayrton Senna replaced injured fellow-Brazilian Nelson Piquet on Saturday at the head of the grid for today's San Marino Grand Prix Motor Race.

Senna, in a Lotus, finished the final practice session with a best time of one minute 25.826 seconds — just over 0.1 of a second faster than Piquet's Williams teammate Nigel Mansell of Britain.

Piquet's pacesetter time of 1:25.997, recorded before his 300 kph crash in practice on Friday, would have put him in third position on the grid if he had not been withdrawn from the race on medical grounds.

As it was, world champion Alain Prost took third place in a McLaren after recording successively improved times in Saturday's session in his bid to equal

Briton Jackie Stewart's record of 27 Grand Prix wins.

Piquet was withdrawn, despite his own efforts, when the Formula One circuit's senior medical officers said they would not issue him with a medical certificate allowing him to practise or race.

Mansell made a bold bid to keep Williams in pole position with his fastest time early in the session, but traffic problems prevented him improving on it later.

After Senna's pacesetter lap late in the session, Mansell tried to eclipse him once more in his number one car with new tyres, but he was slowed by an engine problem.

Despite taking pole position, Senna said the Lotus, equipped with a revolutionary computerised suspension, was not handling well.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Iraqi paper criticises UAE fans at match

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's leading sports newspaper, Saturday criticised soccer fans in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for their behaviour in an Olympic Games qualifying match which Iraq won 3-0. Al Baath Al Riyadhi newspaper, commenting on Friday night's match in Dubai, said police in the stadium were no more than "paper tigers." During the game, shown on Baghdad Television, UAE fans were seen throwing empty bottles at Iraqi players without any action from police. The match, which put Iraq into the next regional qualifying round for the 1988 Olympic Games in South Korea along with Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait, was held up for 10 minutes near the end because of crowd behaviour. "The champions of Iraq scored the victory against the UAE team on its own ground despite all the circumstances it faced, mainly the bad-mannered audience who lack sporting morals," Al Baath Al Riyadhi said. The newspaper's editor-in-chief is Uday Hussein, son of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. Iraq chartered aircraft to fly hundreds of fans to the UAE for the match.

Kusakabe maintains lead in golf

NAGOYA, Japan (R) — Japan's Masaji Kusakabe shot a 69 to keep a two-stroke lead in the third round of the 90 million yen (\$643,000) Chunichi Crowns Golf Tournament on Saturday. Kusakabe, 41, carded two birdies against one bogey over the 6,491-yard, par-70 Nagoya Golf Club course for an aggregate of 10-under-par 200. Compatriot Masahi Ozaki had a 66 and moved into second spot with 202, followed by Ian Baker-Finch of Australia, who had a 69 for 203.

Rain interrupts West German Open tennis

HAMBURG (R) — Rain disrupted semifinal play Saturday at the \$375,000 West German Open Tennis Championships. The first match between second seed Miloslav Mecir and unseeded Eduardo Bengoechea of Argentina started 43 minutes late and was broken off later with Mecir leading 7-6, 2-1. The second semifinal is between top seed Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and Swede Kent Carlsson, seeded three.

Pakistan makes steady start in cricket

LONDON (R) — Pakistan were 94 for two at lunch on the opening day of a three-day match against Surrey at the Oval Saturday — the opening game of their English tour. Captain Mudassar Nazar went for eight when he was caught at slip by Monte Lynch after chasing a ball from Mark Feltham. Lynch just failed to hold a second as Shoaib Mohammad, son of the legendary Hanif Mohammad, lifted a delivery from Tony Gray on a bouncy wicket. New batsman Rameez Raja hooked Gray to the boundary and punished the deliveries of Surrey captain Ian Greig but eventually fell to left-arm spinner Keith Medleycott for 41.

Clive Allen voted England's top player

LONDON (R) — Tottenham's international striker Clive Allen was Saturday voted footballer of the year by England's soccer journalists. He collected 50 per cent of the votes in the annual poll held by the Football Writers' Association. Allen, who has scored 47 goals for his club this season, succeeds fellow England striker Gary Lineker. Joint runners-up were Allen's Tottenham teammate Glen Hoddle and Liverpool's Ian Rush, winner of the award in 1984.

Krishnan, Lapidus to meet in men's final

NAGOYA, Japan (AP) — Top-seeded Ramesh Krishnan of India rallied Saturday to beat no. 3 Andrew Castle of Britain 4-6, 6-0, 6-3 and will meet American Jay Lapidus in the men's singles final of the Dunlop Masters Tennis Tournament. Lapidus, the no. 5 seed, beat unseeded countryman Eric Korita 4-6, 7-6, 6-1 in the semifinals on the Hard Courts of the Nagoya Green Tennis Club.

Beggar trampled in soccer riot

DHAKA (R) — Fleeing fans trampled a beggar to death after rioting broke out in Bangladesh's capital when a soccer match was cancelled because of a power strike, police said. They said the beggar, who was seeking alms outside the stadium, died in a stampede by hundreds of fans who ran for cover when the riot started. At least 50 people were injured in clashes as police tried to stop the rioting, a police spokesman said.

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Philippines offers new Muslim autonomy plan

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The government, trying to save peace talks with Muslim rebels, offered Saturday to hold an autonomy referendum in all 23 southern provinces.

But the vice chief of staff warned "all signs" point to a breakdown of the negotiations. Negotiators from the government and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) met again Saturday in a bid to reach an agreement on Muslim autonomy and prevent a new round of fighting in the 15-year insurgency.

The two sides adjourned the session Saturday afternoon and both conceded that chances for an agreement by the May 9 deadline were slim. But they agreed to resume discussions on Monday. Congressional elections are set for May 11.

During Saturday's session, chief government negotiator Emmanuel Pelaez offered to hold a referendum to ask voters in all 23 provinces of Mindanao and nearby southern islands whether they want self-rule.

Chief MNLF delegate Habib Hashim said the rebels were willing to hold a referendum in 10 of the 23 provinces but not in the others, since they are already included in two self-governing regions established by deposed President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

Muslims make up about 40 per cent of Mindanao's more than 11 million people. The MNLF is the largest of at least three armed Muslim groups. The others object to the government-MNLF talks, claiming they were excluded.

"We will go back to the armed struggle (if the talks fail)," Mr. Hashim told reporters. "We are confident that in the not too distant future we will be able to liberate our people and our homeland from the colonial Philippine government."

Mr. Pelaez said he thought there was an even chance an agreement could be reached by May 9, but Mr. Hashim said "we have no assurance that we can reach an agreement."

Li-Gen. Salvador Mison, the vice-chief-of-staff, told reporters that "all signs point to a breakdown" of talks with the MNLF. But he remained optimistic that even if the talks break down, the MNLF will back off from its threat to resume fighting.

Talks began last February after the MNLF dropped its demand

for an independent Muslim state and agreed to negotiate self-rule for the country's 5 million Muslims.

Fighting with Communist rebels resumed after the expiration of a nationwide ceasefire on Feb. 8, and a breakdown in talks with the Muslims would raise the spectre of a two-front war for the 250,000-strong Philippine military.

Meanwhile, President Corason Aquino campaigned for her administration's candidates in the May 11 congressional elections at a rally in the mountain resort of Baguio City, 210 kilometres north of Manila.

Mrs. Aquino told about 7,000 people in a sports stadium that they should vote only for administration candidates in the election, in which voters will choose 24 members of the Senate and 200 delegates to the House of Representatives.

"When we assumed office, we inherited many problems, chief among them was the sad state of the economy," Mrs. Aquino told the crowd. "During the past 14 months, we have made a turnaround in the economy. Finally we have had a positive growth, which we thought was impossible because of the realities of 1986."

Honduran death squad reportedly killed 200

NEW YORK (R) — The Honduran army detained and killed nearly 200 suspected leftists between 1980 and 1984, the New York Times reported Saturday, quoting a man who says he was part of a special team.

Florencio Caballero, who is now said to be seeking asylum in Canada, is a former Honduran soldier who says the government maintained a network of special jails, interrogators and kidnapping teams.

The newspaper says Caballero reported that Argentine and Chilean trainers taught the Honduran army kidnapping and "elimination" techniques.

Caballero, 29, says he was a sergeant in Honduran army intelligence until 1984 and that he was trained by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Caballero added that the CIA explicitly forbade physical torture or assassination, but two unnamed American officials also quoted by the New York Times said the agency knew the Honduran army was killing prisoners.

The newspaper said Caballero made his allegations in an extensive interview with the newspaper in Central America and subsequent interviews with members of Americas Watch, an American human rights organisation.

He said he felt guilty about his past and had a feud with other soldiers who tried to kill him, but he denied that he killed or physically injured prisoners in four years of secret work.

Webster clears Senate hurdle to win CIA job

WASHINGTON (R) — FBI Director William Webster has easily cleared a first hurdle in his bid to run the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) despite revelations about FBI contacts with a key figure in the Iran-contra arms scandal.

The Senate Intelligence Committee Friday unanimously approved the former federal judge's nomination as CIA director and the full Senate was expected to follow suit in a vote later this month.

Mr. Webster, in a news conference after the vote with committee Chairman Senator David Boren and Vice-Chairman Senator William Cohen, said he welcomed the committee's vote of confidence and pledged to cooperate fully with the panel if confirmed by the Senate.

A last minute closed-door ses-

sion before Friday's vote concentrated on FBI documents revealing that fired White House aide Lt.-Col. Oliver North had on several occasions in 1985 and 1986 tried to influence FBI investigations into private U.S. efforts to aid Nicaragua's "contra" rebels.

Col. North was fired from his job in President Reagan's National Security Council (NSC) for allegedly masterminding a scheme to divert millions of dollars from the Iran arms sales to the contras during a congressional ban on such aid.

Documents Mr. Webster submitted to the committee also indicated President Reagan was informed by Col. North of those possibly illegal efforts and may have been more aware of those activities than he has admitted.

Pope urges selflessness during W. German visit

KEVELAER, West Germany (R) — Pope John Paul Saturday preached the merits of simplicity to 80,000 enthusiastic pilgrims and warned them that selfishness and careless use of technology endangered the survival of mankind.

The Pope spoke from an altar in a sports stadium adorned with 100,000 flowers, where some pilgrims had waited since the middle of the night.

"In your everyday lives examine what it offered you as progress," the Pope said. "We have to be specially alert if we wish to defend this planet and life on it and preserve it for the future."

The Pope inaugurated Keve-

laer's pilgrim season by knocking three times with a gilded hammer on the massive bronze portals of the town's Basilica. Then he prayed at a small Marian chapel erected at the site where the peddler Hendrick Buisman saw Mary in a vision in 1642.

He seemed at ease at the Marian pilgrimage site on the third day of a visit so far dominated by Germany's painful Nazi past. On Friday, he beatified Edith Stein, a Jewish-born nun amid criticism from Jews saying she was killed as a Jewess and not because of her adopted faith.

In a reference to the risks of nuclear energy, the Pope said mankind's survival depends on environmental protection.

May Day rallies marked by violence

LONDON (R) — Police fired on demonstrators at a Buddhist temple in Sri Lanka and Solidarity activists were beaten up in Poland during May Day rallies that brought anti-government dissent to several world capitals.

The Soviet Union set its theme for the International Labour Festival with a Pravda editorial urging every effort to ensure that Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reform policies would bring about a "revolutionary renewal" of society.

But in neighbouring Poland eyewitnesses said baton-wielding police smashed into a Solidarity demonstration in the city of Wroclaw and detained 150 people including local leaders of the banned free trade union.

At least 20 people were beaten up as riot police intervened to stop a banned march in Wroclaw's old town in the most serious clash with the Communist authorities since Solidarity was suppressed under martial law more than five years ago.

Polish police also dispersed demonstrations in Warsaw and Poznan.

The worst May Day trouble flared in Colombo, Sri Lanka's capital, where witnesses said police fired sub-machine-guns outside a Buddhist temple to

break up protesters defying a government ban on rallies.

Hospital sources said one man was killed and several people were wounded.

Nearly 2,000 demonstrators including Buddhist monks threw stones at security forces ringing the Abayaramaya Temple, where an anti-government rally was held. Witnesses said police retaliated with automatic fire and tear gas.

Ironically, the ban was imposed to prevent violence in the city following a bomb blast that killed 113 people 10 days ago and was blamed by the government on Tamil rebels.

Many other May Day demonstrations also focused on burning national issues.

In Manila, troops were on full alert as workers marched across the capital to protest over the government's failure to raise their wages. Left-wing union leaders snubbed a reception given by President Corason Aquino.

Supporters of ousted President Ferdinand Marcos demanded his return from exile in the United States and Communist rebel forces called for an intensified "armed struggle" against the government. But no disturbances were reported by nightfall.

About 20,000 Greek workers

marched through the centre of Athens chanting slogans against an austerity programme imposed by the Socialist government.

Trade unionists rallying in Madrid also hit out at the Spanish Socialist government's austerity policies, with one labour leader calling them "the worst attack against the working class under our democracy."

In Paris, up to 10,000 people marched behind banners of the Communist-led CGT trade union calling for more jobs.

South African authorities, who had banned black labour rallies on May Day, nevertheless reported renewed violence and campus unrest five days ahead of an all-white election.

In the Soviet capital tens of thousands of Muscovites paraded through Red Square and filed past Mr. Gorbachev, smiling and waving from the roof of the red granite mausoleum.

Their banners and slogans echoed Pravda's appeal for a move away from the social and economic stagnation of recent years.

"Our slogan is action. Action for the sake of better life, for the sake of the revolutionary renewal of our society," the Communist Party newspaper said in its May Day editorial.

Waldheim calls U.S. ban an insult to all Austrians

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — President Kurt Waldheim, criticising U.S. justice officials, said the American decision to bar him from the United States because of his World War II past was an insult to all elderly Austrians.

Meanwhile, the U.S. ambassador to Vienna said Wednesday that Dr. Waldheim was trying to rally support by appealing to the Austrians' sense of patriotism and common past.

Dr. Waldheim has "wrapped himself very much, not only in the flag ... but in the whole country, saying 'I'm accused, the whole people's accused,'" Ambassador Ronald Lauder said in an interview.

Dr. Waldheim is trying to convince Austrians that the United States is insulting them all, saying he did not act any differently

than other Austrians of his generation during World War II, Mr. Lauder told the Associated Press.

On Monday, U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese said Dr. Waldheim would be barred from entering the United States as a private person over allegations that the Austrian president helped persecute Jews as a German army officer during the war.

Speaking Wednesday to an associate of former soldiers, Dr. Waldheim said the U.S. decision violates legal principles valid throughout the world.

"Everywhere in the world, the legal principles are valid that somebody can only be declared guilty if the guilt was proved," Dr. Waldheim said.

The 68-year-old president also defended his wartime activities.

Reagan cancels visit to Italy

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan will attend the economic summit of Western leaders in Venice next month but will omit his planned state visit to Italy because of the political crisis there, the Washington Post said Saturday.

Italian President Francesco Cossiga this week dissolved parliament and called elections for

June 14, four days after the Venice meeting.

Mr. Reagan's state visit had been scheduled for June 3-7. Administration sources told the Post he would still visit Rome in that period and meet Pope John Paul II at the Vatican. The White House had no immediate comment.

U.S. contra opponents set to redouble aid to Managua

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. volunteer groups say they will not be intimidated by the killing of the first American citizen in the five-year-old Nicaraguan war and will redouble their efforts to help the Marxist Sandinista government.

"It's full speed ahead and a redoubling of our efforts," Michele Costa, who coordinates work brigades for Nicaragua network, has told Reuters.

The network is one of scores of groups sending volunteers to Nicaragua despite the hostility of the U.S. government which arms and finances "contra" rebels like the ones who killed American Benjamin Linder last Tuesday.

Technica, a Berkeley, California, group, said Friday it was sending a dozen highly skilled specialists to Managua this weekend, including a doctor, a medical technician, a surveyor and a civil engineer.

Costa said she expected a surge of new volunteers outraged by the slaying of Linder, a 27-year-old engineer who had been working on rural electrification projects for the Sandinistas.

Linder, of Portland, Oregon, was killed with two Nicaraguans as he arrived at a hydroelectric project near the northern town of San Jose De Bocay.

Witness For Peace, another pro-Sandinista volunteer group, said in a statement that Linder's death was not the first suffered by U.S. volunteer groups in a war they blame on Reagan administration policies.

The Nicaraguan Democratic Force, or FDN, the largest contra army, said Linder was caught in crossfire between rebels and a group of pro-government militiamen accompanying him outside a small town in north eastern Nicaragua.

Jayewardene: Troops must recapture Jaffna

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — President Junius R. Jayewardene said Saturday that his troops must recapture the northern Jaffna peninsula, a Tamil separatist stronghold, and that civilian casualties "cannot be helped."

Mr. Jayewardene, in an exclusive interview with the Associated Press, also said his government would accept "help from the devil himself, if necessary" to fight terrorism by minority Tamil insurgents demanding a homeland in the north and east of the island nation. He said all foreign assistance was welcome.

The 80-year-old leader said his 10-year-old government would go ahead and unilaterally implement a nationwide system of provincial councils, except in the troubled northern and eastern provinces, which Tamils claim.

He said a draft had been prepared for discussion by the cabinet and his United Nationalist Party (UNP).

Tamil militants have said the proposals do not go far enough. The measures would provide greater autonomy to all nine provinces, but do not provide the north east merger or sweeping powers sought by militants.

"The chief terrorist group must come to the table and talk without weapons, but they are not prepared to talk," Mr. Jayewardene said of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the most powerful guerrilla group.

patch said only that the Pakistani plane went down near Miran Shah, just inside Pakistan about 240 kilometres south of Islamabad, and that the pilot ejected safely.

It was not clear whether the missile was fired from the ground or from one of the intruding planes. The information Ministry said it had no further details, and calls to the defence command were not answered.

The incident, which happened at mid-day, heightens an already tense situation between Pakistan and Afghanistan, which has launched repeated air strikes on Afghan guerrillas in Pakistan since early March.

Islamabad has issued stern warnings to Kabul about the attacks, promising to chase and shoot down any intruding aircraft. It shot down Afghan planes on March 30 and April 16.

Meanwhile in Washington, a senior U.S. official said Wednesday, the United States is considering urgently Pakistan's request to lease radar planes to help counter alleged air attacks from Afghanistan.

Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost also called on India and Pakistan to sign a regional nuclear non-proliferation pact to ward off what he called a potential nuclear arms race between them.

Mr. Armacost told an audience at the Asia Society that Washington was trying to forge a "durable and balanced relationship" with the two nations.

He alleged there had been over 300 air attacks from Afghanistan, this year, causing over 1,000 casualties in Pakistan.

"We are urgently addressing Pakistan's recent request to ac-

Pravda praises 'kamikaze' pilot in Afghanistan

MOSCOW (Agencies) — A Soviet newspaper praised a Soviet pilot who it said sacrificed his life by diving his MiG-23 fighter into anti-aircraft guns manned by Dushman guerrillas in Afghanistan.

The report in the army newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda was a rare reference by the Soviet media to casualties suffered by an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan helping the Communist government in its war against Afghan guerrillas.

It said the guerrillas did not have time to escape when Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Levenchenko deliberately crashed into an anti-aircraft unit and "sent anti-aircraft guns and bodies of Dushmans flying."

The newspaper quoted another pilot named as Major Scherbak as saying he had watched Levenchenko deliberately steer his jet at the guerrillas after he was wounded.

It said Levenchenko, who was born in 1947, had posthumously been made a Hero of the Soviet Union. The incident occurred in December 1985, it said.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who diplomats say is seeking ways to bring home Soviet troops sent into Afghanistan in December 1979, praised the valor of the fighting force in a speech to the Soviet Youth Communist League last month.

A Pakistan air force jet was shot down Wednesday while chasing a formation of intruding Afghan aircraft, but the pilot escaped injury, the Pakistan Defence Department announced.

It was first such instance since Afghan fighters began raiding guerrilla and refugee settlements just inside Pakistan.

The Defence Department dis-

quire airborne radar platforms to counter these attacks," he said.

Mr. Armacost said Washington was well aware of Indian concerns that such sales tilted the balance of military power, but he insisted U.S. arms sales to Pakistan gave Islamabad "the alternative of conventional weapons to nuclear arms."

"We will continue to focus on sales that will help Pakistan deal with its problems on the Afghan border," he added.

Mr. Armacost said that despite a spate of press reports alleging that Pakistan had the means to assemble a nuclear weapon quickly, the U.S. government had not changed its assessment that Islamabad did not possess such a weapon. But he said each side fuelled the suspicion of the other by not signing international non-proliferation treaties and that Pakistan's offer to sign them simultaneously with India "would be strengthened by adherence to the limited test ban treaty, which India has done."

An Afghanistan cabinet minister said Afghan guerrillas have received 1,600 U.S.-made Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to subvert Kabul's drive for reconciliation between the government and its opponents.

A raid by Afghan guerrillas on Soviet territory earlier this month was also aimed at undermining the ceasefire and amnesty Kabul offered them as the only alternative to war, Gholam Jilani Kargar said in Bangkok, Thailand, on Wednesday.

But Mr. Kargar, president of the cabinet management office, told a news conference he was sure the anti-Communist rebels would not succeed even with their new missiles.

Kabul Radio said Friday Afgha-

nistan wants to send envoys to visit refugees in camps in Pakistan and Iran to try to make peace with them.

Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil has written to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar asking him to approach the two governments, said the official radio, monitored in Islamabad.

The letter repeated charges, denied in Islamabad and Tehran, that the two were putting obstacles in the way of Afghan refugees who wished to return home.

The government wanted to send reconciliation groups to try to make peace with the rebels and establish contact with exiles who wanted to return home, Mr. Wakil's letter said.

U.S. Senate confirms new envoy to Pakistan

WASHINGTON (R) — After a long delay, the U.S. Senate has approved President Reagan's controversial nomination of veteran career diplomat Arnold Raphael as ambassador to Pakistan.

By a vote of 76 to 19, the Senate confirmed the nomination despite charges by critics that Mr. Raphael was soft on Soviet aggression in neighbouring Afghanistan.

Supporters of the 44-year old Raphael, a 20-year veteran of the professional U.S. Foreign Service, shrugged off the criticism from conservative senators and said there was no basis to the charges.

Most recently, Mr. Raphael has been senior deputy assistant secretary of state and deputy head of the Bureau of Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs in Washington.

COLUMNS 7&8

Spanish lotto winner gets \$6.7m

MADRID (R) — An unidentified Spaniard living in the northern city of Bilbao won a record \$6.7 million prize in this week's national lottery, Lotto, officials have said. The winning combination of the six numbers on the ticket was 12-14-16-32-41-48.

Killer gets 27 years to life and a wife

EL CAJON, California (AP) — A convicted killer was sentenced to 27 years to life, then remained shackled as he married his girlfriend in a courtroom ceremony officiated by the judge who handed down the sentence. One of four marshals in the courtroom handed the ring to Rodney Wayne Jones, 23, when the time came for him to put it on the finger of 22-year-old Rhonda Jackson. "This is the first time I've ever done that," the judge said of the unusual wedding. Jones was convicted of murder in the fatal shooting in August of 24-year-old Antonio Giles, who was killed when he intervened in an argument between Jones and Giles' younger brother. Asked why she married Jones, Jackson said she loves him. The couple has a 3-month-old son.

Sinatra may boycott Swedish concert

LOS ANGELES (R) — Frank Sinatra has said he would probably cancel his first concert appearance in Sweden in 35 years because he was infuriated by a Swedish government decision to tax his earnings since he had performed in South Africa. The 71-year-old singer, who has recovered from intestinal surgery and was scheduled to perform in Stockholm in June, called the Finance Ministry decision an undemocratic act to "certainly unselected Swedish bureaucrats... (who) are apparently dictating who should and should not perform in Sweden and under what conditions." Tax bills for foreign entertainers are traditionally waived by Swedish authorities, but the Finance Ministry refused a request for Sinatra's exemption because he is on the United Nations blacklist of artists who have performed in South Africa. Neighbouring Norway banned Sinatra from appearing at an open-air concert in Oslo earlier this year for the same reason.

Americans ignore medical advice on sun

WASHINGTON (R) — Most Americans will continue to lie out in the sun and frequent tanning salons despite the risks of skin cancer, according to a study released by the American Academy of Dermatology. "A large percentage of us know the sun causes skin damage but we chose to deliberately tan anyway," Dr. Richard Odum, president of the Illinois-based academy, said at the group's national conference. Skin cancer strikes about 450,000 Americans a year and ranks as the most common form of cancer in the United States. Ninety-six per cent of respondents to the academy's survey knew that sun exposure can lead to premature wrinkles, dry skin, sun burn or skin cancer, according to the study. But up to three-fourths of those surveyed said a tan looks healthy. Thirty-one per cent of the women surveyed and 28 per cent of the men said they intentionally work on a tan. Almost half of the adult respondents said they lie in the sun to develop a tan.

Self-proclaimed Mahdi gets 5 years

CAIRO (AP) — A self-proclaimed Mahdi and 27 of his followers each has received a five-year imprisonment term on charges of preaching a distorted version of Islam and spreading extremist ideologies, the state-owned newspaper Al Akhram reported. The charges, upheld by a Cairo court, said the defendants circulated pamphlets and tape recordings in which they recognised Hussein Ashry, a former policeman and paper merchant, as the awaited Mahdi. It said the defendants violated Islamic tenets with the aim of fomenting sedition among Muslims. Ashry was said to have told investigators that as a prophet, he can marry any number of wives, without being bound by Islamic rules that restrict the number of wives to four at a time.

Reagan's son says he was sexually abused

NEW YORK (R) — Michael Reagan, the adopted son of President Reagan and his first wife, actress Jane Wyman, says in a new biography he was sexually abused as a child by a day camp counsellor he thought of as a father figure because he was ignored at home. The young Reagan says the man sexually molested him for a year when he was seven years old and took nude photographs of him. He adds that he grew up fearing that he was a homosexual and that the photographs would surface, harming his father's political career. Details of the biography were published by the New York Daily News and Penthouse magazine, which both said they had obtained outlines of it. Michael Reagan's agent, Scott Meredith, confirmed the accuracy of the outline but said: "What was published is only the tip of the iceberg." The book, On the Outside Looking In, for which Michael Reagan is reported to have received a \$1 million advance, is to be published in November. Michael Reagan, whose 1983-1984 estrangement from his father and first lady Nancy Reagan was widely publicised, said he grew up seldom seeing his father because his parents divorced when he was three years old, with custody going to his mother. He adds that he seldom saw Wyman, even though she had custody of him, and grew up thinking that a black cook in the house was his mother. The News said it was only last month that Michael told the president and the first lady what had happened.

China bees kill boy, injure four

PEKING (R) — A swarm of bees released by their keeper sting to death a seven-year-old boy and seriously injured four adults in the east China city of Ningbo, the China Daily has said. It said the boy was playing earlier this month when the bees attacked him. His mother and two farmers who rushed to help him and a woman passer-by were injured by the bees, it added but gave no more details.

China to extend maternity leaves

PEKING (AP) — China's government has drafted new regulations extending maternity leaves and providing guarantees that women's careers will not suffer because of pregnancies. The official China Daily said Wednesday the draft bill, soon to be taken up by the state council, lengthens maternity leaves from 56 to 90 days, with 14 days before and 76 days after giving birth. Some local governments already have adopted the measures on a provisional basis, it said. Shanghai provides 90 days leave, gives pregnant women an hour's rest every day and exempts them from working at night. The draft regulations also state that work units cannot refuse women jobs they are capable of doing, must give women full pay during maternity leaves and cannot terminate contracts for temporary women employees who become pregnant.

Robbers steal jewellery worth over \$1m

HONG KONG (AP) — Armed men took jewellery worth about 10 million Hong Kong dollars (\$1.3 million) from a store in the elegant Peninsula Hotel and escaped in a waiting car Wednesday, police reported. Four masked men, two armed with pistols, appeared to be pistols, burst into the jewellery shop in the morning, police said. One of the men grabbed the security guard as the others smashed the showcases to get at the jewellery. The police spokesman Hanny Lee told reporters. After a few minutes waiting outside, police said. There were no reports of injuries at the time. The Peninsula, one of Hong Kong's best-known hotels, is at the head of Nathan Road, a renowned tourist shopping street in this British colony.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SEARAT
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q1—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQ9 ♠KQ54 ♠KQ762
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1♣ 1♦ 2♣ ?
What do you bid now?
- Q2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A10932 ♠KQJ63 ♠K5
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1♦ 1♣ Pass 2♣ ?
What action do you take?
- Q3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQ998 ♠73 ♠A1065 ♠62
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1♣ 2♣ ?
What action do you take?
- Q4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQJ ♠872 ♠653 ♠A83
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
Pass Pass Pass ?
What is your opening bid?
- Q5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AQ95 ♠A87 ♠63 ♠KJ102
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1♣ 1♦ Pass 1♣ Pass
2♦ Pass 3♣ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
- Q6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K95 ♠CJ9 ♠682 ♠AKJ106
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1♣ Pass 2♦ Pass
3♣ Pass ?
What do you bid now?